



# ***Daily Report***

## **East Asia**

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## East Asia

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**APEC Secretariat: Malaysia To Assume  
Chairmanship in 1998**

*BK2603074996 Kuala Lumpur THE STAR in English  
26 Mar 96 [no page number as received]*

[BERNAMA Report — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Singapore — Malaysia will assume the chair of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in 1998, the APEC Secretariat said yesterday.

The secretariat here also announced the appointment of ambassador Jack Whittleton of Canada as the deputy executive director at the secretariat, adding that Canada would assume the APEC chair next year and New Zealand in 1999.

It said the posts of executive director and deputy executive director at the secretariat are held for one calendar year and filled by ambassadors from the current and next chairs of APEC. It said Whittleton, who succeeded ambassador Armando Madamba of the Philippines, would serve as deputy executive director until Canada assumes the chair next year.

Madamba took over as executive director of the secretariat on Jan 1.

**ASEAN Officials Continue ARF Consultations in  
Indonesia**

*OW0904161096 Tokyo KYODO in English  
1536 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[By Christine T. Tjandraningsih]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Surabaya, Indonesia, April 9 KYODO — Senior officials of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed Tuesday [9 April] to continue consultations with non-ASEAN participants in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) on new criteria for accepting more members into the security forum.

"The meeting agreed that the chairman (of the meeting, Indonesia) should continue its consultations with the other ARF participants (outside of ASEAN) regarding the criteria for future participations in the ARF and the admission of Myanmar and India at the third ARF ministerial meeting," said a report of the meeting, obtained by KYODO news.

The third ARF ministerial session is scheduled for July.

According to the report, adopted by the ASEAN officials at their meeting in Indonesia's second biggest city of Surabaya, Japan has indicated its readiness "to perceive the issue of the Myanmar participation in the ARF from a strategic angle rather than from a purely human rights perspective."

Indonesia, as host to the third ARF ministerial meeting, is now preparing new criteria for accepting members. The new criteria will be submitted for approval to the ARF senior officials meeting to be held in Jogjakarta, Indonesia, on May 10-11.

Izhar Ibrahim, director general for political affairs at the Indonesian Foreign Ministry, who chaired the just-completed two-day meeting, said that prior to the ARF senior officials gathering, a regular meeting of ASEAN senior officials, the third this year, is scheduled to be held May 6-9 in the same city.

In the second ARF ministerial meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, last year, the consultative body for security in the Asia-Pacific region asked Indonesia to develop new membership criteria for consideration at this year's meeting.

The forum, which was inaugurated in 1994 at ASEAN's initiative, has attracted the attention of a number of non-ASEAN countries, all of which have expressed interest in joining the organization.

India, Mongolia, Myanmar, North Korea, Kazakstan, Ukraine and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) as well as Britain and France have officially applied to be members of the security forum.

The 19-member ARF currently consists of ASEAN's seven members — Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam — plus Australia, Cambodia, Canada, China, the European Union, Japan, Laos, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Russia, South Korea and the United States.

The report also said New Zealand has expressed a wish to co-chair with Thailand an ARF intersessional meeting concerning the U.N. conventional arms register next year.

On the applications of Laos and Cambodia for membership in ASEAN, the report said the senior officials agreed to recommend to the ASEAN informal summit to be held in the town of Bogor, near Jakarta, in the first week of December this year that the two countries be admitted as full members of ASEAN at the ASEAN ministerial meeting in Malaysia in 1997.

"The meeting agreed on the need to coordinate among ASEAN countries in assisting Laos and Cambodia for their smooth integration into the ASEAN process," the report said.

The meeting also agreed that the ASEAN standing committee should continue to identify the actual needs of Laos and Cambodia in their preparations to be ASEAN members, it said.



## Japan

### Japan: Hashimoto 'Hopes' Clinton Summit Focuses on Security

OW1004052596 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0302 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Wednesday [10 April] he hopes his upcoming summit with U.S. President Bill Clinton will focus on bilateral security rather than trade, but added that he cannot say it will with confidence.

Hashimoto made the comment in reference to White House Spokesman Mike McCurry's remarks Tuesday that "because we have successfully put in place many measures that are now effectively managing our trade relations with the government of Japan, that is likely going to be a bilateral meeting that focuses more on security issues."

Asked if he shares that view, Hashimoto told reporters, "I hope to create such a condition as I will meet Mr. (U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter) Mondale in the evening. But currently I am not confident to tell you so."

Clinton will visit Japan April 10-18 and hold talks with Hashimoto April 17.

### Japan: Official 'Worried' Over Insurance Row With U.S.

OW1004044796 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0427 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — Japan is concerned that its insurance market dispute with the United States may not be settled in time for U.S. President Bill Clinton's state visit to Japan next week, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday [10 April].

"I'm wondering if it will be resolved in time. It will be difficult to get it settled," said the official, who asked to remain anonymous.

"I'm a little bit worried about it," added the official, alluding to the bilateral insurance talks in the U.S. this weekend.

The official said Tokyo and Washington have not even reached the point where Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and Clinton can confirm a "substantive development" in the insurance row and show a "good direction" in resolving it.

The key issue in the talks is the scope of the so-called third-sector products to be handled by life and nonlife subsidiaries of Japanese insurers.

The U.S. maintains the subsidiaries should not be allowed to sell third-sector products before Japan fully liberalizes its primary life and nonlife insurance markets.

### Japan: Ambassador to U.S. Cited on Semiconductor Agreement

OW1004013096 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0028 GMT 10 Apr 96

[By Kohzi Murayama]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington, April 9 KYODO — The United States and Japan are making enough progress in lingering trade issues that they feel they can shun disputes and focus more on security during a bilateral summit in Tokyo next week, officials from both nations said Tuesday [9 April].

Japanese Ambassador to Washington Kunihiko Saito indicated further progress in the semiconductor and insurance issues — two of the three key remaining trade issues between the two nations.

Speaking at a press conference to discuss President Bill Clinton's visit, Saito indicated for the first time that Tokyo is willing to "endorse" an agreement expected to be reached soon between U.S. and Japanese semiconductor manufacturers.

The Japanese ambassador also voiced hopes for resolving the insurance issue before Clinton's visit, and a source close to the negotiations said the two nations are expected to hold the next round of talks from Friday in Washington.

Saito said he conveyed the Japanese positions to U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor when they met earlier Tuesday.

Since last year, Washington has been calling for progress in these two issues and two other areas — air cargo and photographic film and paper — prior to Clinton's visit to Tokyo next week. The two nations reached an agreement on the air cargo issue last month.

The U.S. side appeared encouraged Tuesday [9 Apr] by recent developments.

"Because we have successfully put in place many measures that are now effectively managing our trade relation with the government of Japan, that is likely going to be a bilateral meeting that focuses more on security issues," White House Spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters.

McCurry added that trade issues are always on the agenda when the leaders of the two nations meet.



Saito said the two nations have already agreed that trade issues "should not be allowed to dominate" the talks between Clinton and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on April 17.

In offering the new impetus from Tokyo in the semiconductor issue, Saito said, "I'm sure our government will endorse it (the industry-level agreement) and will be happy to support it."

U.S. and Japanese semiconductor manufacturers will meet in Tokyo this week and next week after the bilateral summit to discuss ways to enhance cooperation.

"We are hoping that they will reach an agreement," Saito said.

Recently, the U.S. side has not been insisting on a new numerical target in a new government-level agreement.

The semiconductor issue remains at an impasse with Tokyo continuing to refuse U.S. calls to renew the 1991 semiconductor agreement that expires in July, arguing that it has fulfilled its role with foreign market share in Japan already above the 20 percent targeted by the U.S.

On the insurance issue, Saito said U.S. negotiators are currently assessing a proposal presented by Japan during the latest session in Los Angeles last weekend.

"We expect the U.S. side to indicate it's reaction to the proposal and indicate to us when we will meet again," Saito said, noting that he hopes the next session will be before Clinton's visit.

The two nations are at odds over their interpretation of the 1995 insurance accord, which calls for the substantial liberalization of the life and nonlife insurance sectors before Japan allows Japanese concerns to enter the so-called "third sector."

Japan effectively allows only foreign insurers to offer third-sector products such as nursing, cancer and other policies that combine life and nonlife benefits.

The U.S. has expressed concerns over Tokyo's plan to allow Japanese insurance companies to enter the third sector via subsidiaries.

On the film issue, however, Saito reiterated Japan remains opposed to government-level negotiations, and urged Washington to wait for the results of an antitrust investigation by Japan's Fair Trade Commission into Japan's film and paper market.

# **Japan: Tsukahara, Mondale Agree on Trade Progress Importance**

OW0904120896 Tokyo KYODO in English  
1109 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO — International Trade and Industry Minister Shumpei Tsukahara and U.S. ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale agreed Tuesday [9 April] on the importance of making progress in bilateral trade issues in the run-up to president Bill Clinton's state visit to Japan beginning April 16.

At their meeting, Tsukahara and Mondale discussed whether to renew the Japan-U.S. semiconductor agreement due to expire July 31 as well as market access problems in the photographic film and insurance sectors, trade ministry officials said.

Both the Japanese and U.S. sides declined to disclose details of the meeting. But it is thought that Mondale continued to seek renewal of the pact, while Tsukahara repeated Japan's stance that government involvement in the microchip sector is no longer needed, given the growing foreign presence in the Japanese chip market.

The chip accord calls for the foreign market share to rise above 20 percent. Foreign chips accounted for a record 30.2 percent of the Japanese market in the October-December quarter of 1995, the ministry of international trade and industry (MITI) says.

On the film issue, in which Eastman Kodak Co. of the U.S. is blaming Fuji Photo Film Co. for blocking its access to Japanese consumers through anticompetitive practices, Tsukahara is thought to have rejected a U.S. call for intergovernmental negotiations.

MITI has been arguing that competition policy issues should be handled by the fair trade commission.

Mondale, meanwhile, is believed to have expressed hopes for a successful conclusion of both security and trade issues at the summit meeting between Clinton and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto.

# **Japan: Upcoming Security Alliance Talks With Clinton Viewed**

OW1004044096 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0241 GMT 10 Apr 96

[Third in a four-part series by Takehiko Kajita: "Japan-U.S. Summit Expected To Mull Policy Toward China"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — During the period of Cold War animosities, the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty served as a foundation to counter



enormous potential threats from the Soviet Union in East Asia.

The 1991 demise of the "evil empire," as it was called by former U.S. President Ronald Reagan, removed such threats but did not result in freeing Tokyo and Washington from a spell of security collaboration in the region.

Now, the two countries are moving to strengthen their bilateral security alliance further as Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton are set to meet in Tokyo on April 17.

In their summit, Hashimoto and Clinton are going to reinforce the importance of the security regime in the post-Cold War era so as to keep watch on a plethora of remaining destabilizing factors in the region.

And China is broadly considered one of the most imminent regional security threats, especially after the recent escalation of tensions with Taiwan, which was triggered by Beijing's series of missile and live-ammunition military maneuvers near the island.

A high-ranking Foreign Ministry official, who asked to remain anonymous, said the matter of China "is one of the biggest issues of common interest" and will naturally figure high in the Hashimoto-Clinton summit.

After failing to scare Taiwanese voters away from President Li Teng-hui in the March 23 presidential election — the Island's first ever under universal suffrage — China announced the end of its war games in the Taiwan Strait.

Li, who is suspected by Beijing of edging Taiwan toward outright independence and away from peaceful reunification with the mainland, won the election by a landslide.

During his recent journey to Japan, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen warned China would never alter its policy of using force against Taiwan if it declares independence. China views Taiwan as a mutinous province.

Qian, who doubles as Chinese deputy premier, also expressed hope the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty would not impede sound relations between Japan and China, a remark that apparently reflects Beijing's wariness of the Tokyo-Washington tie-up over its own Taiwan policy.

"The (Chinese President) Jiang Zemin leadership is still in a period of transition ahead of the coming post-Deng Xiaoping era. They look uneasy because they are in a transition period," said another high-ranking Foreign Ministry official, who declined to be identified.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Hiroshi Hashimoto denied Japan and the U.S. will reinforce their security alliance to tackle the looming Chinese threat, saying, "The Japan-U.S. security pact is for Japan's defense and is intended to serve as a basis of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region."

In their planned redefinition of the role to be played by the bilateral security pact, Hashimoto and Clinton are likely to avoid naming China as a potential threat in East Asia.

But they are expected to agree to expand the scope of cooperation between Japan's Self-Defense Forces and U.S. Forces under the security treaty so as to commit Japan to military conflicts in the region.

Japanese Government officials say the recent China-Taiwan standoff will not directly affect the work to shape the new course for a bilateral security framework in the post-Cold War period.

Despite a chorus of calls in Okinawa for the scaling-down of U.S. military bases in the southwestern Japanese prefecture, Tokyo and Washington do not support cutting the number of U.S. troops stationed in East Asia from the current 100,000, including 47,000 in Japan.

Opposition to the huge U.S. military presence in Okinawa intensified after the abduction and rape last September of a 12-year-old schoolgirl, an incident for which three American servicemen have been convicted.

"Both the U.S. and Japanese Governments agreed that at this time the U.S. needs to maintain present-level forces in the region and in Japan," Rust Deming, minister counsellor at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, said recently: "The removal or dramatic reduction of U.S. Forces could send a wrong message about the American commitment to the region."

Some say the Japan-U.S. security regime should remain in place for an altogether different China problem.

"In the near future, China could see a further population growth and turn a net importer of food. It would be a disaster," said a legislator from Prime Minister Hashimoto's Liberal Democratic Party familiar with foreign affairs.

"As its consumption of oil sharply increases, disputes with neighboring countries over oil interests will likely surface. Given such circumstances, Japan and the U.S. will be needed more than ever," he said.

There are other potential flash points in East Asia, too, with the Korean peninsula considered one of the greatest menaces to regional security.



Pyongyang's ferocious foreign policy stances are expected to be high on the agenda in the Japan-U.S. summit as well in the context of the reinforcement of the bilateral security relationship.

**Japan: Residents File Suit, Plan Rally During Clinton Visit**

OW1004043796 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0249 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — Residents near a U.S. air base filed a class-action suit Wednesday [10 April] demanding the Japanese and U.S. Governments pay 3.3 billion yen in damages for aircraft noise and ban night flights.

It is the first suit to target the U.S. Government over noise caused by U.S. jet fighters operating from bases in Japan, and the fifth filed over noise at the Yokota Base in the suburbs of Tokyo.

Some 3,100 plaintiffs filed the suit with the Hachioji Branch of the Tokyo District Court.

"We want to fight directly with the U.S. Government in the court now that public attention to U.S. bases (in Japan) is growing because of the Okinawa issue," a lawyer for the plaintiffs said.

They plan to stage a rally against noise at the base around the time of U.S. President Bill Clinton's state visit to Japan on April 16-18.

The plaintiffs were demanding a ban on flights between 9:00 P.M. [1200 GMT] and 7:00 A.M. and compensation payments of 600,000 yen to 800,000 yen to each claimant.

They also want the Japanese and U.S. Governments to confirm their obligations to negotiate future compensation claims.

In February 1993, the Supreme Court ruled that the Japanese Government should compensate residents near the Yokota Base for noise caused by U.S. jet fighters.

The ruling rejected the residents' demand for a ban on night flights, saying U.S. jets' activities in Japan come under the mutual security pact and therefore are outside the jurisdiction of the Japanese Government.

The Japanese and U.S. Governments agreed in November 1993 to restrict flights between 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M., except in times of emergency.

Besides the latest suit, some 300 residents near the Yokota Base filed a suit with the Hachioji Branch of the Tokyo District Court demanding the government ban night flights from the base.

The Yokota Base is the largest U.S. air base on the Japanese mainland of Honshu and home to the U.S. Military Command in Japan.

Thomas J. Boyd, spokesman for the U.S. Military in Japan, said a certain level of noise from U.S. bases is unavoidable.

**Japan: Okinawa Issue 'Casting A Shadow' on Clinton Visit**

OW1004043596 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0406 GMT 9 Apr 96

[Second in a four-part series by Mie Kawashimi: "Okinawa Objection Overshadows Hashimoto-Clinton Meeting"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO — Objection to the U.S. military presence in Okinawa Prefecture is casting a shadow over Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's upcoming summit meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Despite administrative and judicial procedures the government has taken since last fall, the U.S. military use of a plot of land in the southwestern prefecture lost its clear legal basis at March 31 midnight with the expiration of a lease with a local landowner.

U.S. State Department Deputy Spokesman Glyn Davis said April 1, "Arrangements... [ellipses as received] for the leasing of the land in Okinawa are the responsibility of the Government of Japan."

Hashimoto voiced concern the same day that his "foothold of negotiation" with Clinton may weaken unless a prefectural panel approves the government's request for the temporary use of the plot before the President's April 16-18 visit to Japan, according to Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kazo Watanabe.

The premier may have to begin the meeting with Clinton with apologies over the expiration, a government source said.

Yet chief Cabinet Secretary Seiroku Kajiyama, the top government spokesman, brushed off such concerns, saying, "This is a domestic issue and there is no change in our stance to constantly provide the U.S. with military bases."

Kajiyama released a statement March 29 that the U.S. military use of the lot after the lease expires is not necessarily illegal because of Japan's obligation under the bilateral security treaty to provide land to the American Forces.



For security in Japan and the Far East, Tokyo bears obligations under the Japan-U.S. security pact to continue providing the 236-square-meter lot in the 530,000-square-meter Sobe military communications facility in the village of Yomitan, Okinawa Prefecture, according to the statement.

The government on March 29 requested the Okinawa Prefectural Land Expropriation Committee to approve a six-month temporary use of the lot owned by Shoichi Chibana, a 47-year-old local grocer.

The panel, however, is unlikely to agree to the government's request before the Clinton visit because it plans to convene its first session on the issue Friday.

Chibana filed a request with the Naha District Court to order the U.S. military to vacate the land that is now occupied by a large circular antenna, dubbed "the elephant cage." Chibana said he wants to use the lot for his family.

Okinawa residents are constantly exposed to the dangers of criminal activities and accidents related to U.S. bases, he said in his written request.

The central government has built fences around the communications facility, and after the lease expired, Kajiyama said Chibana and his family can enter the land only if they are not accompanied by supporters or reporters.

Hashimoto took procedures March 28 to sign documents needed to force Chibana and 34 other landowners, whose leases will expire later, to renew contracts for the use of their lots by U.S. Forces.

But he further needs approval by the prefectural panel to legalize the U.S. military use of the land with an expired contract.

The prime minister took this action after Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota refused to abide by the Naha Branch of the Fukuoka High Court's March 25 order to sign the documents.

On April 1, Ota appealed to the Supreme Court to review the high court decision.

The governor has criticized the March 25 ruling as going against Okinawa people's wishes to see the U.S. military presence reduced. Although the prefecture accounts for less than 1 percent of Japan's total land area, some 75 percent of all the land in Japan reserved for U.S. military use is concentrated there.

Moves for reduction of the military presence in Okinawa were intensified following the rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl in September, for which the Naha District Court handed out sentences for three U.S. servicemen

of six and a half years and seven years in prison. Two of the men have appealed to a higher court.

Prospects are dim for a significant Okinawa base cut-back despite pledges from both Tokyo and Washington to reduce the presence.

In their first summit meeting in California on Feb. 23, Hashimoto asked Clinton to cooperate on the consolidation, realignment and reduction of bases in Okinawa, mentioning the Futenma Marine Airfield [Marine Corps Air Station Futenma] as one of the facilities the local government expressed a strong determination to recover.

"The president... [ellipses as received] pledged our best effort to make progress on that (Okinawa) issue. And they agreed that they should work on this issue, looking toward the President's visit and beyond the visit," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Winston Lord said shortly after the session.

But when Hashimoto met with Ota over dinner on March 22, the premier said an early recovery of Futenma Base has become "very difficult" partly because of strained China-Taiwan relations.

Defense Agency Chief Hideo Usui told the Diet the recovery of Futenma Base is difficult because the facility is for the Marine Corps, which he said constitute the core of the U.S. military presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

#### **Japan: Clinton's 'Strategy' for Upcoming State Visit Viewed**

*OW1004043096 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0256 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[First of four-part series by Kohei Murayama: "Clinton Wants To Avoid Election-Year Disputes With Japan"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington, April 7 KYODO — U.S. President Bill Clinton is in a better position now to pursue an election-year strategy of avoiding major disputes with Japan during his April 16-18 state visit than when his scheduled trip was abruptly postponed last November.

His initially planned trip was overshadowed by the abduction and rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl by U.S. military servicemen last September in Okinawa, when attention focused on how Clinton would deal with the public outcry to reduce the U.S. military presence there.

The situation posed two possible problems for Clinton — offending Japanese feelings by failing to address the Okinawa issue, and inviting Republican attacks over a lack of Japanese commitment on security and trade issues.



But the skies have cleared a little since then and Clinton is now better placed to embark on his reelection campaign.

In particular, Chinese military drills last month near Taiwan underlined the importance of the U.S. military presence for regional security, and an air cargo agreement between Japan and the United States achieved some of the progress sought by Washington in four key trade areas before Clinton's visit.

"I think what we're going to see in both countries is two governments preparing for the next election," said James Przystup, director of the Asian Studies Center at the Heritage Foundation.

Now when he meets Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto in Tokyo, Clinton is expected to press ahead for a stronger bilateral security alliance supported by both Republicans and Democrats.

On the trade front, Clinton is likely to follow his election-year strategy of highlighting 20 agreements with Japan as having been achieved by his administration's firmness.

However, in a move seen by some analysts as intended to show his unchanged commitment to opening Japan's market, the President also intends to call for more progress in other key areas, including semiconductors, insurance, and photographic film and paper.

White House Spokesman Mike McCurry said the two countries must pursue progress in trade issues to "clear the way to what we look forward to as a very successful, very productive summit meeting that will deal first and foremost with security issues."

But Clinton is expected to take a relatively low-key approach to prevent them from developing into major disputes that could be taken as a failure of his trade policy.

"We're not going to have a replay of the auto talks" that were resolved last summer but had raised concerns over bilateral ties in the prolonged two-year negotiation process during which Washington finally threatened sanctions, Przystup said. "If we have a replay of the auto talks, it would only underscore how ineffective Clinton has been."

Against this backdrop, Clinton will focus on "alliance and broader issues of the relationship," Przystup said.

Helping Clinton to pursue this course, increased tension in the Taiwan Strait due to China's provocative military drills has partly moved the spotlight from the Okinawa issue to the bilateral alliance for maintaining security in East Asia.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Asian and Pacific Affairs Winston Lord said, "It is important as part of your policy toward Asia, particularly China, that you make sure that your cornerstone, your relationship with Japan, is in good shape."

"Japan fully supports us," he said in a recent speech over the coming summit.

A senior U.S. Defense Department official said the two nations are unlikely to find a way to consolidate and reduce such major U.S. bases as Futenma Air Field [Marine Corps Air Station Futenma] in Okinawa, although an interim report will be issued before the summit.

Noting that the recent events in the Taiwan Strait "have implications" for bilateral security ties, the defense official said, "We also have to balance that (Okinawa issue) with our larger goals, objectives and responsibilities to Japan."

Even more influenced by the China-Taiwan tension are U.S. lawmakers, a Japan expert in Congress said. "Now, because of China's actions, Okinawa, and a variety of other things, people have become focused again on the political security relationship."

On the radical end of the conservative Republican lawmakers, Sen. Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the U.S. should not "fool" itself by not keeping a close security alliance with Japan.

"If the United States were to leave the Japanese to fend for themselves, I am convinced that Japan would go nuclear within 10 years," he said. This will lead to an arms race in East Asia, including a "nuclear-armed and reunified Korean peninsula."

China is also partly taking attention away from Tokyo in Congress, helping Clinton focus on achievements with Japan in trade.

Lord said that in an election year criticism of Japan could resurface, "But I suspect there will be more China-bashing than Japan-bashing, especially in the economic area."

Still, the Clinton administration is cautiously proceeding with new trade negotiations with Japan in a bid to address criticism of its policy.

House of Representatives Speaker Newt Gingrich supports the current approach. "It is a useful thing to put pressure on Japan every day. The problem is you ought to do it subtly and in ways that maximize pain in Japan with minimum public relations."



On the other hand, Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, a strong critic of Clinton, lashed out at the administration's recent focus on security issues as "simply wrong."

"Individual companies have run into these situations repeatedly and their interests have been put to the side in the interest of so-called national security," D'Amato said.

**Japan: Mainland Live-Fire Sites Offered to U.S. in Okinawa**

*OW0904134596 Tokyo KYODO in English  
1255 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO — Japan on Tuesday [9 April] offered four sites on the mainland as alternatives for U.S. live-fire shelling drills currently conducted in Okinawa Prefecture, government sources said.

Japan submitted detailed data on the four sites to a task force meeting of the Japan-U.S. joint committee, the sources said.

The four sites are Yausubetsu in Hokkaido Prefecture, Ojojihara in Miyagi Prefecture, Higashi-Fuji and Kita-Fuji stretching between Yamanashi and Shizuoka Prefectures, and Hijudai in Oita Prefecture.

The U.S. live-fire exercises can be transferred to any of the four sites, the sources said.

Tokyo and Washington plan to officially decide on the transfer this summer following their previous agreement to reduce the drills and two U.S. military bases in Okinawa, Japan's southernmost Prefecture.

The artillery exercises, which involve firing live ammunition across a prefectural highway and against the hills on camp grounds, require that a 3.7-kilometer stretch of the highway be closed during the drills.

Residents living near the base have demanded an end to the drills, saying they are inconvenienced by the closing of the highway and fear the shelling may trigger fires in the hills, landslides and other damage to the environment.

The Okinawa Prefectural government has called for a reduction in the heavy U.S. base presence. The move was prompted by the abduction and rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl by three U.S. servicemen, who were convicted last month.

**Japan: Okinawa Citizens Group Submits Petitions on U.S. Bases**

*OW1004051596 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0357 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Naha, Japan, April 10 KYODO — A citizens' group in Japan's southwesternmost prefecture of Okinawa began submitting petitions to city and town administrations Wednesday [10 April] seeking a referendum over the presence of U.S. military bases in the prefecture.

The group, Rengo Okinawa, which has some 48,000 members, is submitting the petitions with a total of about 37,000 signatures to election administration committees in more than 40 towns, cities and villages around the prefecture.

The committees will have 20 days to assess the validity of the petitions.

The group's members said they also plan to submit petitions to Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota on Wednesday as well as a formal request for the enactment of an ordinance mandating a referendum.

The governor is obliged to submit a draft ordinance to the prefectural assembly within 10 days of such a request.

To ensure the validity of their petitions, the group had to collect more than 18,000 signatures, or more than one fiftieth of all eligible voters in the prefecture.

Although the prefecture accounts for less than 1 percent of Japan's total land area, some 75 percent of all the land in Japan reserved for U.S. military use is concentrated there.

Moves for the reduction of the military presence in Okinawa intensified following the rape of an Okinawa schoolgirl in September, for which the Naha District Court handed out sentences for three U.S. servicemen of six and a half years and seven years in prison. Two of the men have appealed to a higher court.

Meanwhile, about 50 labor union and peace group members protested outside the gates of Camp Hansen, a U.S. military base about 25 kilometers northeast of the prefectural capital of Naha, over a three-day practice session that started Wednesday using live ammunition at the base's firing range within the town of Kin.

The use of the range requires the closure of a highway, which it straddles. The firing exercise is the fifth so far this year.



**Japan: Okinawa U.S. Servicewoman 'Guilty' in Car Accident**

OW1004051996 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0439 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Naha, Japan, April 10 KYODO — A U.S. servicewoman pleaded guilty Wednesday [10 April] to negligence in an accident in which the car she was driving hit and killed a woman and her two daughters in Okinawa Prefecture in January.

In the first hearing of the case in the Naha District Court, Lori Padilla, a 20-year-old lance corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps, pleaded guilty to the charge of negligence resulting in death.

According to the prosecution, Padilla was driving at high speed when her car mounted the sidewalk and struck and killed Rojita Kinjo, 36, and her daughters Mitsuko, 10, and Mariko, 1, in the town of Chatan on Jan. 7.

In a separate civil suit, bereaved relatives of the Kinjos have sued Padilla and the owner of the car she was driving for a total of 62 million yen in compensation.

**Japan: Defense Cooperation for Far East Emergencies Studied**

OW1004110596 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN (Morning Edition) in Japanese 9 Apr 96 p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] Japan and the United States have been coordinating on "redefining" the security arrangement in preparation for President Bill Clinton's visit to Japan, and it has become apparent that the redefinition will eventually end up strengthening defense cooperation between the two countries. In promoting its Forward Deployment Strategy, which was worked out in preparation for regional disputes in the post-cold war era, the United States will ask Japan to share corresponding burdens. The recent tensions in the Taiwan Strait and on the Korean peninsula have added fuel to the creation of this scheme. The "document on the security arrangement" to be issued after the Japan-U.S. summit talks will probably arouse controversy, because it can be regarded as the starting point for revising "guidelines for defense cooperation" so that measures can be taken to deal with emergencies in the Far East.

From the very beginning, the work of redefining the security arrangement was started "because the United States wanted Japan to share part of the responsibility" for promoting the U.S. forces' strategy to deal with regional disputes that may take place in various places even after the collapse of the cold war structure (as stated by a senior official of the Defense Agency).

At this juncture, the tension in relations between China and Taiwan intensified, and the situation on the Korean peninsula remained ambiguous. Therefore, the Japanese side also had an intensified sense of crisis, maintaining that "if Japan cannot support the U.S. forces in case of emergencies in the Far East, the Japan-U.S. security arrangement will probably collapse."

At a session of the Panel on Asian-Pacific Affairs of the Senate's Foreign Affairs Committee held on 27 March, Prof. Vogel [name as transliterated] of Harvard University stressed that it will be necessary for Japan "to contribute in terms of personnel."

Article VI of the Japan-U.S. security treaty allows the U.S. forces to go into action "to prepare for emergencies in the Far East"; however, this article is unrealistic. A cabinet meeting held in November 1978 approved a report on a study of guidelines conducted by Japan and the United States on the basis of three cases: a structure to prevent invasions of Japan, countermeasures against armed attacks on Japan, and Japan-U.S. cooperation in case of emergencies in the Far East.

Nevertheless, the study conducted so far has focused on such issues as maintenance of the U.S. nuclear deterrent capability and forward deployment of its reflex force units [sokuo butai] as well as its joint operations with the Self-Defense Forces [SDF]. It is merely stated that "the two sides will study in advance what measures Japan can take to provide U.S. forces with conveniences within its legal framework," but no plans for joint operations have been worked out.

In support of practical redefinition of the security arrangement, the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] has decided to work out a concrete plan for providing civilian airports and general port facilities for U.S. forces in case of emergencies in the Far East. However, there is a great possibility that once a study is launched on logistic support for U.S. forces in such emergencies, a controversy will arise over the right of collective self-defense, because in the government's interpretation of the Constitution, exercise of this right is not permitted.

Ichiro Ozawa, head of Shinshinto [New Frontier Party], stated on 7 April that exercise of the right of collective self-defense should be regarded as constitutional, and his remarks have aroused some responses within the LDP. However, the Socialist Democratic Party and other parties strongly demand that "contributions should be made within the Constitution." It is inevitable that the study will lead to a controversy over the Constitution.



**Japan: Main Points of ACSA With U.S. Forces Decided**

*NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN (Morning Edition)  
in Japanese 10 Apr 96 p 2*

[FBIS Translated Text] The government decided on 9 April on the main points of the acquisition and cross servicing agreement (ACSA) between the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] and the U.S. forces, which will enable them to share fuel, maintenance services, and so forth. These were explained at the Liberal Democratic Party's [LDP] Foreign Affairs Division on the same day.

Stating clearly that this will not violate the government's policy of prohibiting arms exports, it was decided that equipment and weapons spare parts will be included in ACSA.

Japan and the United States plan to have the ACSA signed by Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda and U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale on 15 April, one day before President Clinton comes to Japan, after which the government will submit bills to the Diet for the ratification of the accord and the amendment of the SDF Law.

ACSA will only apply during joint military exercises between Japan and the United States, when undertaking UN peacekeeping operations (PKO), and in cases of emergency international humanitarian aid. Although there are opinions inside the ruling parties favoring the application of ACSA in an emergency situation, this was sidestepped for fear of violating the ban on "exercise of the right of collective self-defense," which is regarded as illegitimate under the government's constitutional interpretation.

However, the government believes that a strict legal definition of an "emergency" does not exist yet, and it opted for "virtually precluding application during an emergency by limiting ACSA's application to joint Japan-U.S. exercises, which normally do not happen during an emergency."

The agreement will cover 15 areas, including matters relating to food, water supply, fuel and lubricants, garment, and barracks of soldiers; communications, health services, storage, facility use, training, spare parts and equipment, repair and maintenance, and airports and ports. One item on water supply was added to the 14 items agreed upon last summer, and ammunition continues to be excluded.

When supplies, such as fuel, are provided to the other party, the basic principle is that such supplies will be replaced in kind; and when this is not possible, cash payment will be made.

Regarding the inclusion of spare parts for equipment and weapons in ACSA, there were objections because of the possibility of violating the government's policy on arms export ban. For this reason, a provision on "limited use and transfer," prohibiting the U.S. forces from transferring supplies received from the SDF to a third country without prior approval from the Japanese Government, was added. The government emphasizes that, with this, the basic policy of banning arms exports — meant to avoid fueling international conflicts — is not contradicted.

**Japan: \$500 Million in Aid To Go to Bosnia Over 4 Years**

*OW0904153996 Tokyo KYODO in English  
1451 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO — Japan will provide a total of 500 million dollars (some 54 billion yen) in aid over four years starting fiscal 1996 to support the reconstruction of war-stricken Bosnia-Herzegovina, government sources said Tuesday [9 April].

Japan will announce the aid at an international meeting on Bosnia's restoration scheduled to be held in Brussels on Friday and Saturday, the sources said.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto will also brief U.S. President Bill Clinton on the aid as part of Japan's global contributions when they hold a summit meeting in Tokyo on April 17.

Japan, which has already pledged to give 75 million yen this year to support the restoration of Bosnia-Herzegovina, will provide an additional 425 million dollars (45 billion yen) in aid, the officials said.

As part of its financial assistance to Bosnia, Japan will provide 150 million dollars in fiscal 1996 through March next year to support the development of social infrastructure such as railways, roads and electric power transmission facilities.

Japan will also give 80 million dollars in fiscal 1996 to help resettle displaced refugees and create jobs for them, according to the officials.

The Japanese Government plans to continue giving grants-in-aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina until its economy is completely rebuilt and to provide yen loans after its restoration, the officials said.

According to an estimate by the World Bank, some 1.8 billion dollars will be needed this year alone for the rehabilitation of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Of this, some 400 million dollars has yet to be pledged.



**Japan: Keidanren To Support PRC Development Projects**

OW1004072796 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0525 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, April 10 KYODO — Japan's most powerful business group has pledged its readiness to cooperate in China's modernization program, including a Chang Jiang River development plan, group officials said Wednesday [10 April].

The officials said the pledge was made by Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), in a meeting with Gan Ziyu, vice minister of China's State Planning Commission.

Toyoda, who is also chairman of Japan's top automaker Toyota Motor Corp., is leading a Keidanren mission to China.

The officials said Toyoda was briefed by Gan on major pending projects such as the development of areas along the Chang Jiang River and construction of a superexpress railway between Beijing and Shanghai via Nanjing.

Toyoda was quoted as saying the Keidanren is ready to provide active support for the projects as well as assist in the environmental and energy resources development fields.

Gan highly appreciates the technological and safety standards of Japan's Shinkansen Superexpress Railway Network.

Gan also said China plans to start building the Shanghai-Nanjing leg of the superexpress railway in the closing stages of the country's ninth five-year economic plan, covering the 1996-2000 period.

The line will be extended to Beijing by the year 2010, Gan added.

Toyoda pledged Keidanren's support for Chinese projects in a meeting Tuesday with Xu Dayou, vice chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade.

Xu told Toyoda that China has priority projects to realize its economic development and "we would like to build a close relationship with Keidanren," the officials said.

**Japan: Keidanren Head Meets With PRC Trade Officials**

OW0904154096 Tokyo KYODO in English  
1445 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, April 9 KYODO — Japan's top business leader Shoichiro Toyoda expressed

Tuesday [9 April] his group's willingness to help China press ahead with industrial development projects, including a project to develop areas along the Chang Jiang river.

Toyoda, head of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), voiced the support at a 30-minute meeting with Xu Dayou, vice chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, Keidanren officials said.

Toyoda, concurrently chairman of Toyota Motor Corp., told Xu, "Japan wants to help China develop its economy in coming years." He is currently in Beijing leading a Keidanren delegation.

Toyoda cited three types of Chinese projects in which Japan is particularly interested — environment and energy projects, comprehensive development of areas along the Chang Jiang river, and the linking of Beijing and Shanghai with high-speed rail.

In response, Xu appealed for Japanese assistance in pushing overall Chinese economic development, the officials said.

He was quoted as telling Toyoda, "China has priority projects to realize its economic development such as those to promote agriculture, the petrochemical industry and the automobile industry."

"We would like to build a close relationship with Keidanren, which is the most influential (among Japanese business groups)," Xu was quoted as saying.

**Japan: Mitsui Signs Burma Gas Project Participation Accord**

OW1004091096 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0643 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — Mitsui and Co. said Wednesday [10 April] it has signed an agreement with the Myanmar [Burma] Government to participate in a project to build facilities for natural gas use, in a consortium with Unocal Corp. Of the United States and Total of France.

The major Japanese trading house said Myanmar has been developing a natural gas field off Yadana, south of Yangon [Rangoon], with Unocal, Total and Thailand's state-run petroleum company. Operation in the field is expected to start in July 1998.

The joint project in which Mitsui will participate involves the laying of gas pipelines from the gas field to Yangon, as well as building a fertilizer factory and a gas-fired power plant on the outskirts of Yangon, both of which will use gas from the Yadana field.



The fertilizer factory will produce about 570,000 tons of urea fertilizer a year, and the power plant will generate about 200 megawatts of electricity, Mitsui said.

It said that with the project, the Myanmar Government aims to boost agricultural production and to help ease power shortages which have been the chief obstacle to direct foreign investment.

Mitsui declined to reveal the project costs but a business daily, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, reported Wednesday the cost tops 700 million dollars (about 75 billion yen).

#### **Japan: Ministry Predicts 3d Annual Drop in Account Surplus**

*OW1004032896 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0232 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — Japan's current account surplus for February dropped 38.8 percent from a year earlier to 745.9 billion yen amid strong imports and a rise in spending abroad by Japanese tourists, the Finance Ministry said Tuesday (9 April).

It is almost certain Japan will report a third consecutive yearly fall in its current account surplus for fiscal 1995, which ended in March.

"The structure of Japan's industry and its import behavior is changing more rapidly than expected," a Finance Ministry official said.

Deregulation measures so far taken by the government have made foreign products more accessible to Japanese consumers, the official said.

Japanese companies are also accelerating moves to shift production facilities abroad to take advantage of lower costs and to import finished products from there, he said.

Given a continued rise in imports and an expansion in the services trade deficit, Japan is expected to continue to see a decline in its current account surplus, the official said.

The current account balance measures the trade flows of goods and services, investment income and other monetary transfers.

In goods and services trade in February, Japan's surplus fell 55.7 percent to 390 billion yen, a decrease for the 15th consecutive month, the ministry said.

The figure was the smallest since February 1991, when the surplus totaled 485.6 billion yen. Comparable figures for the goods and services category have been available from January 1991.

Japan's surplus in merchandise trade dropped 30.6 percent to 900.9 billion yen, marking a decline for the 15th straight month, the ministry said.

Exports rose 16.6 percent to 3,940.5 billion yen, an increase for the seventh successive month, while imports increased 46.0 percent to 3,039.6 billion yen, a rise for 19 straight months, it said.

Among export items, semiconductors and other electronic devices increased 28.0 percent and metal-processing equipment rose 40.3 percent. Auto exports, however, fell 6.0 percent.

Imports surged 70.8 percent for office equipment, 46.2 percent for clothing and related products and 81.1 percent for electronic devices. Auto imports also rose 9.3 percent.

In services trade, meanwhile, Japan posted a deficit of 510.9 billion yen, up 22.4 percent, to mark a high for February, due in part to expansion in the tourism account, the ministry said.

The deficit in the tourism account increased from 211.6 billion yen to 296.8 billion yen, a record for February, as more Japanese tourists went abroad, it said.

For the first 11 months of fiscal 1995, Japan's current account surplus totaled 8,202.1 billion yen, down 25.8 percent from the same period of fiscal 1994. Japan posted a surplus of 9,059.4 billion yen for all of fiscal 1994.

Hisashi Yamada, an economist at the Japanese Research Institute, expects Japan will continue to see a decline in its current account surplus.

"A downtrend has been established," Yamada said, citing structural changes in Japan's industry.

The institute estimates that the ratio of Japan's current account surplus to its gross domestic product (GDP) will fall from the present level of about 2 percent to less than 1 percent in the year 2000, he said.

U.S. pressure on Japan to reduce its current account surplus may ease, but Japan will face a "hollowing out" of industry as companies shift production overseas, and other problems, Yamada said.

#### **Japan: BOJ Governor Reiterates 'Economy Is Recovering'**

*OW1004090496 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0720 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasuo Matsushita on



Wednesday [10 April] reiterated the Central Bank's recent economic assessments that show Japan's economy is recovering, albeit moderately.

"We will place a priority on consolidating the foundation of the economic recovery," Matsushita said at a press conference, suggesting that the Central Bank will maintain its current easy monetary policy for the time being.

Matsushita was cautious about the economic outlook, saying it is premature to draw conclusions about the strength of the present economic recovery.

Matsushita cited overseas economies and progress in Japan's structural adjustments as uncertain factors.

Matsushita said it is necessary to revise the present Bank of Japan law to cope with new situations in the 21st century.

"Since the law was enacted during the war, there is a possibility it will fail to meet future needs," Matsushita said.

Matsushita showed readiness to join discussions on the revision of the law, which are under way within the ruling coalition parties.

"When I have a chance, I will take part in such discussions," Matsushita said.

#### **Japan: OECD Official Sees Economic Growth in 2.5-3% Range**

OW0904121896 Tokyo KYODO in English  
1047 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO — The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) predicts Japan's economic growth will hit between 2.5 and 3 percent in annualized rates at the end of 1996, OECD Secretary General Jean Claude Paye said Tuesday [9 April].

"After some slowdown in several member countries during the second half of '95, we now have good signs that there will be an acceleration of growth in all our member countries," Paye said at a news conference at the Japan national press club.

"This holds true for Japan, where after several years of low growth and stagnation there is now a good prospect for an acceleration of growth," he said.

Paye noted the organization forecasts annual economic growth for the entire 26-member OECD at around 2 to 2.5 percent next year. "Those rates are not dramatically high, but they are not negligible and they are sustainable," he said.

At the OECD ministerial meeting scheduled to take place in Paris next month, member states will discuss growth and employment, further strengthening of the multilateral system and the future of the organization, Paye said.

On the multilateral system, the ministers will "take stock of" OECD discussion about a multilateral agreement on investment, stress the importance of fighting bribery and discuss further liberalization of the telecommunications sector, Paye said.

About the future of the OECD, Paye said it is important for the ministers to discuss how its membership should be expanded. Given the OECD is an organization for policy dialogue among governments, he said the number of member states "shouldn't be too large."

#### **Japan: MITI To Revamp Trade Insurance To Fund Asian Projects**

OW0904142996 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN  
(Morning Edition) in Japanese 9 Apr 96 p 5

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has decided to carry out a radical reformulation of its trade insurance system. This includes the introduction of dollar-denominated trade insurance and coverage of investments in third countries by Japanese companies' foreign-based subsidiaries. The trade insurance reform is aimed at encouraging Japanese firms to invest in long-term projects, such as dam construction, by reducing foreign-exchange risk for private firms. The new trade insurance is expected to encourage Japanese firms to fully deal with developing nations' brisk demands for infrastructure, paving the way for investments in third countries with underdeveloped systematic protection for foreign investors. The new system could be in place as early as October.

Under the current system, MITI's trade insurance pays out only in yen even though Japanese firms conduct trade and investments in developing nations overwhelmingly in dollars. If the yen weakens after an exporter signs an insurance contract, the insurance may not cover dollar-denominated losses.

MITI noticed reduction of foreign-exchange risk is indispensable for securing Japanese firms' investments overseas. The dollar-denominated trade insurance will be introduced starting with long-term policies to cover dam and highway construction projects extending over 10 years.

The new trade insurance system will widen its safety net for Japanese companies to take in trading and investment activities of their overseas subsidiaries in third countries. This is because few developing countries



have full-fledged trade insurance systems. Overseas subsidiaries of Japanese companies are increasingly reinvesting profits earned in one Asian country into another rapidly-growing country. The expansion of coverage by MITI's existing trade insurance system is aimed at boosting those overseas subsidiaries' business in third countries.

Developing countries in Asia will need some \$1,500 billion during the next decade to carry out their ambitious infrastructure modernization projects, according to MITI estimates. Public funds, including the Japanese Government's official development assistance (ODA) and Asian countries' own funds, to be invested in the region are expected to remain around \$600 billion. Under such circumstances, MITI intends to pave the way for accelerating private-sector investments.

#### **Japan: Industry Group Issues FY95 Used Car Sales Figures**

*OW1004055196 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0314 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — Domestic sales of used cars, trucks and buses in fiscal 1995 increased 4.9 percent from the previous year to 5,728,977 for the second straight year of growth, an industry group said Wednesday [10 April].

Sales of secondhand passenger cars rose 4.8 percent to 4,884,759 in the year to March 31, with sales of cars with engine capacity above 2000 CC [cubic centimeters] growing 28.1 percent to 1,060,131, the Japan Automobile Dealers Association said.

Sales of used trucks totaled 741,582, up 4.0 percent, while bus sales came to 13,556, up 8.0 percent, the association said.

For March alone, sales of used vehicles fell 1.8 percent to 755,008, declining from year-earlier levels for the first time in 14 months.

The March sales jumped 57.0 percent from the February level, however.

Sales of secondhand passenger cars in March decreased 1.9 percent from a year before to 655,452 and sales of used trucks fell 4.4 percent to 87,254. Sales of used buses increased 7.4 percent to 1,460 in the month.

The combined sales of secondhand vehicles in March were 1.6 percent higher than a total of 742,805 new cars, trucks and buses sold in the month.

#### **Japan: NTT Hails Telecom Ownership Deregulation Proposal**

*OW1004090596 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0715 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — The president of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) on Wednesday [10 April] welcomed the government's intention to lift a foreign ownership restriction for telecom carriers excluding NTT and international carrier KDD.

The government is expected to propose lifting the rule limiting the maximum allowable foreign ownership of those companies to less than one-third of their stocks.

The proposal will be made as part of ongoing negotiations under the World Trade Organization to draw up international rules for telecommunications market liberalization, an area which could not be resolved under the Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks.

"I think it's a good idea," Masashi Kojima, the head of the domestic telecom giant, said at a regular news conference. Noting foreign countries are also briskly deregulating in this area, he said, "Japanese companies can also enter (foreign markets). (deregulation) has to be based on reciprocity."

Kojima said foreign companies are already gaining stakes in Japanese cable TV operators. Deregulation will likely prompt (foreign companies) to buy out Japanese cable TV companies, which already number 200 Kojima predicted.

He said that despite deregulation, however, it will remain difficult for foreign telecom carriers to tap the domestic telephone market in the same manner as NTT and its three long distance rival.

Meanwhile, Kojima said it is undesirable from the standpoint of long term business strategy that NTT has to seek the posts and telecommunications ministries approval about executive personnel arrangements every year.

#### **Japan: Trade Minister Urges Steel Sector To Aid Development**

*OW1004045296 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0409 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — International Trade and Industry Minister Shumpei Tsukahara asked steel industry leaders Wednesday [10 April] to team up with the steel sector in developing countries on technical transfers of environmental and energy conservation technology.



At a meeting over breakfast, Tsukahara noted the United States and European countries are beginning to consider trade and environmental issues in the developing world as a package, a Trade Ministry official said.

Japan can play a greater role in this area, the official quoted Tsukahara as saying.

Steel industry chiefs, meanwhile, called for the government to ease the corporate and landholding tax. Tsukahara said the ministry is willing to review taxation to create an attractive business environment by international standards.

Among the industry leaders who attended the meeting was Takashi Imai, chairman of the Japan Iron and Steel Federation.

#### **Japan: KYODO Obtains Draft Information Disclosure Rules**

*OW1004051896 Tokyo KYODO in English  
0327 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO — A draft prepared on disclosures of administrative information stipulates the right to seek the disclosure of administrative information but rules out the right to seek defense and diplomatic information.

The draft, mapped out by a subpanel to the administrative reform committee, also denies the right to seek the disclosure of information about the process of decision-making and debate by government advisory panels if it undermines the free exchange of views and compromises neutrality in decision-making.

The document, a copy of which was obtained by KYODO news Wednesday [10 April], bans in principle the disclosure of information that could infringe on privacy and adversely affect competition among businesses.

The draft opens the way for foreigners to seek disclosures of administrative information, noting that everyone can seek the disclosure of administrative information.

The subpanel will present a final draft to the administrative reform committee at the committee's meeting on April 24, according to subpanel members.

The committee is scheduled to present a final draft of the legislation on disclosures of administrative information to Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto by the end of this year.

### **Mongolia**

#### **Mongolia: Parties Set up 'Democratic Power' Coalition**

*LD0904101096 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English  
0936 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[By Kim Boldokhonov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ULAANBAATAR, April 9 (Itar-Tass) — The Mongolian Party for Democratic Revival and the Mongolian People's Party on Tuesday set up a Democratic Power coalition. An agreement to this effect has been signed by the leaders of the two parties which have an aggregate membership of more than 6,000.

"The revival and development of Mongolian society on democratic traditions" are the two parties' concept. At the forthcoming parliamentary elections, due to be held in June, the Democratic Power coalition will act as a third political association.

Opposition to the ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party at the elections to the State Great Hural was announced in February by the National Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party, which set up a Democratic Union coalition.

#### **Mongolian Television: 30 Jun General Elections Planned**

*OW1004000796 Tokyo KYODO in English  
2301 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ulaanbaatar, April 10 KYODO — Mongolia will hold general elections June 30 for its single-chamber parliament, the Great Hural, state television reported Tuesday [9 April] night.

Elections for the supreme legislative body were last conducted in 1992. The term of office is four years.

The number of constituencies will be increased to 76 from the 26 in the last elections, Mongolteleviz said. One member will be elected from each constituency.

### **North Korea**

#### **DPRK: Statement on DMZ by KPA Panmunjom Mission Lauded**

*SK1004092996 Pyongyang Radio Pyongyang  
in Korean to South Korea 1250 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[Commentary by Kim Ho-sam: "A Due Self-Defensive Measure"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As has been reported, on 4 April the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's



Army (KPA) issued its spokesman's press statement in connection with the fact that the South Korean puppets have made the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) and the DMZ a lawless area [muhop chonji] by outrageously trampling underfoot the order of conduct [haengdong chilso] for this area that was agreed upon by the two sides to the agreement.

In the press statement the spokesman announced that the KPA will renounce its duty concerning the maintenance and management of the MDL and DMZ and that, as a follow-up step pursuant to renouncing the above-mentioned duty, our side's personnel and vehicles will bear no distinctive insignia and markings when they enter the Joint Security Area of Panmunjom and the DMZ.

Such a step is our due self-defensive measure regarding the extremely dangerous military situation created in the MDL and the DMZ.

A very dangerous situation has been created recently in the area of the MDL and the DMZ. Consequently, an incident evoking great worries from our people and the world's people is taking place in succession. The DMZ is literally a zone devoid of arms, a buffer zone established under an international treaty or under an agreement between the parties concerned. Therefore, such a zone should become a zone where the existing military facilities are removed, new military facilities can no longer be established, and the two sides in hostilities [choktaejok kyojon ssangbang] withdraw their troops to prevent a conflict between them.

The Korean Armistice Agreement stipulates that no heavy and automatic weapons and no more than 1,000 military personnel shall be brought into the DMZ. This is a key clause of the agreement to preserve safety in the DMZ and preserve peace and security on the Korean Peninsula. Therefore, this clause must be strictly respected in the DMZ, because the DMZ is an extremely sensitive area that temporarily separates the two sides in hostilities from one another.

Nevertheless, the South Korean war maniacs have systematically violated this clause under the support of the United States. They have continued to bring all kinds of machine guns; heavy weapons, such as 90-mm recoilless guns; and armed troops into the DMZ. Today, they have turned the DMZ into positions to carry out a preemptive attack against us.

Under these circumstances, for more than five years our Republic has continued to propose to the parties concerned, including the United States, [migugul pirotan yugwanchuktul] that negotiations be held to remove the dangers to security in the DMZ and on the Korean

peninsula. Yet the United States has never responded to this proposal.

This being the case, we made an epochal proposal in April 1994 to establish a new peace mechanism in place of the obsolete Armistice Agreement on the Korean peninsula and, based on this proposal, withdrew members of our side to the Military Armistice Commission to create a new systematic mechanism. Then we established the KPA Panmunjom mission to fill this vacancy.

Thanks to this, contacts could be held between generals of the DPRK and the United States. However, nothing was achieved and the contacts eventually ended in a rupture.

As a result, today there is no military mechanism that can preserve the ceasefire on the Korean peninsula, and the situation is such that another war could break out at any time.

Recently, the South Korean puppets have become even more frenzied in bringing military equipment and personnel into the DMZ. They are even openly building large military structures in areas only 100 meters away from the MDL.

The South Korea puppets no longer bind themselves to the maintenance and management of the DMZ and the order of conduct agreed upon between the two sides. They are merely running amok irrationally.

Thus, no one knows when the South Korean puppets will cock the launching mechanism against us [namjoson koeroeduli kuonje urirul hyanghaeso kyokpalgirul tanggilchi nuga algesumnika]. Under circumstances in which it has become clearer that the puppets have decided on a real war and it is only a matter of time until they produce the sound of gunfire, it is understandable that we cannot just watch the situation develop with folded arms, as if watching a fire across the river. [namjoson koeroeduri silchonul chakchonghago chongsongul ulrinungosun hanai siganmunjeranungosi touk myongbaekhaejin chogoneso, uriga palchangul kigo anjaso sataebalchonul kanggonno pulgugyonghadut halsuoptanungosun chamyonghan ilimnida]

We cannot indefinitely continue to stick to a bundle of invalid documents regarding the maintenance and management of the DMZ and continue to watch the development of the situation.

As we have already declared, it is the nature of our People's Army and the firm will of our Republic to answer fire with fire and a stick with a stick. No one should ever be doubtful about this.



It is entirely because of the war maniacs of Kim Yong-sam in South Korea and the United States that the DMZ situation has become as grave as it is today.

We don't like empty talk. It is our invariable spirit that we do what we say we will do.

The South Korean war maniacs will surely bear the responsibility for the DMZ situation, which has become as dangerous as it is today, and will pay the due price.

Traitor Kim Yong-sam must examine his own behavior before accusing anyone else.

History shows many examples of those traitors who suffered miserable ends by miscalculating the situation and recklessly running amok like fools who rush in where angels fear to tread. The destiny of the Kim Yong-sam war maniacs cannot be otherwise.

**DPRK: 'Doom' of Kim Yong-sam 'Is a Matter of Time'**

*SK1004032996 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0313 GMT 10 Apr 96*

["Destruction of Warmaniacs Is Matter of Time" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — The traitor Kim Yong-sam of South Korea reportedly had a confab with puppet military bosses again over war preparations against the North at "Chongwadae" [presidential offices] on Monday, after inspecting frontline areas to whip up a fever of war.

He charged the North with the self-defensive measures we have taken, now that the status of the Demilitarized Zone of the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) can no longer be maintained. He also said the North's "provocation will not be allowed" and "all preparations should be made to repulse the provocation at once."

His ridiculous remarks indicate that the Kim Yong-sam group is making desperate efforts to blame the North for the situation of the Korean peninsula on the brink of war and get out of the worst socio-political crisis and the ruling crisis by starting a war against the North.

The Demilitarized Zone South of the MDL has turned into a heavily armed area and an attack position for the invasion of the North. Military movements which can be seen only on the eve of war have taken place frequently in South Korea.

It is self-evident that our people and the People's Army soldiers, who regard sovereignty as their life and soul, cannot remain an onlooker to the situation. The latest measures on ours are legitimate self-defensive ones which nobody can speak ill of.

With any sophism and volubility, can Kim Yong-sam never evade the blame for such a crime as driving inter-Korean relations to the worst phase of confrontation.

The nation has already sentenced to death Kim Yong-sam, No. 1 flunkeyist and traitor and a warmaniac. His doom is a matter of time.

He dared say the North "will not be tolerated," encouraged by U.S. bellicose elements. But he must clearly know that they cannot save him.

**DPRK Commentary Urges 'Crushing Defeat' for ROK'S NKP**

*SK1004054296 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0502 GMT 10 Apr 96*

["Crushing Defeat Should Be Dealt to Traitorous Political Party" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — All the anti-Kim Yong-sam and anti-conservative forces in South Korea, closely united as one, should remove the traitor Kim Yong-sam's "New Korea Party" [NKP] from the political arena through a powerful joint action and joint struggle. And political circles should be changed with the newly-emerging forces aspiring after independence, democracy and reunification.

NODONG SINMUN says this in a commentary today as regards the "parliamentary election" to be held on April 11 in South Korea.

The upcoming "election" is an important occasion in the development of the South Korean situation, the news analyst notes, and goes on:

If the democratic forces defeat the Kim Yong-sam group and its "NKP" in the "election" it will drive the traitorous regime to a tighter corner and precipitate its final ruin. Contrary to this, if they allow the "NKP" to win the "election", it will lay bigger obstacles in the way of the South Korean people's struggle for independence and democracy of society and national reunification.

The "NKP" is the basic target of the South Korean democratic forces in their struggle to overthrow the Kim Yong-sam flunkeyist treacherous fascist regime. This is because the Kim Yong-sam group is precisely the "NKP", and with it left intact, the Kim Yong-sam fascist regime cannot be toppled.

The "NKP" is a den of flunkeyist traitors, murderers, separatists, warmaniacs and robbers against independence, democracy and reunification.

The South Korean democratic forces must blast the "NKP", the base of the colonial fascist rule and the den of all vices, in order to overthrow the anti-independent,



anti-democratic, anti-reunification Kim Yong-sam fascist dictatorial regime, defend peace of the country and security of the nation and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

**DPRK: Cilreco Urges World To Support Peace Mechanism Proposal**

*SK0904223096 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0949 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — The Secretariat of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (Cilreco) issued the March edition of its bulletin.

Under the title "Epochal Proposal To Achieve Lasting Peace on Korean Peninsula" the bulletin called upon the branch organizations, the international organizations and peace organizations to fully support the DPRK's new peace proposal and to broadly launch a solidarity movement, urging the United States to respond to it.

The bulletin, in an article headlined "Political Parties and Social Organizations of the DPRK Call for Making 1996 'a Year of Peace and Great National Unity,'" gave an account of a joint conference of the political parties and organizations held in Pyongyang on January 31. It also said that the Executive Committee of the Cilreco met in February to proclaim 1996 "A year of international solidarity for peace and great national unity in Korea" and issue an appeal.

The bulletin edited news that the solidarity movement for supporting the cause of the Korean people is brisk worldwide.

**DPRK: Meeting in Pyongyang Marks 136th Anniversary of Chondoism**

*SK0504100296 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0937 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA) — A meeting to mark the 136th anniversary of Chondoism was held at the central temple of the Korean Chondoist Association today.

Addressing the meeting, Yu Mi-yong, chairwoman of the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association, elaborated on patriotic activities conducted by the Chondoists since its founding for "promoting national interests and welfare of the people" and building an "earthly paradise".

"The entire people including the Chondoists in the northern half of Korea are faced with the nation's supreme task to achieve an independent and peaceful reunification of the country at an early date under the leadership of the respected General Kim Chong-il, true

to the behests of the great President Kim Il-song for reunification," she said.

"All people in the North and the South of Korea should get united firmly under the idea of patriotism in order to topple the Kim Yong-sam group, who persist in North-South confrontation and war moves."

"The believers of Chondoism in the North and the South of Korea should take the lead in removing the 'National Security Law' and other devices, obstacles to reconciliation and unity of the nation and national reunification, realising the release of the pro-reunification patriots, who were illegally detained, and in making 1996 'a year of peace and great national unity'," she stressed.

**DPRK: Foreign Groups Support Peace Mechanism Proposal**

*SK0904222896 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0952 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — World public circles have continued to extend full support to the DPRK's proposal for establishing a new peace mechanism.

Miguel Oyono Ndong Mifumu, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation of Equatorial Guinea, noted in a solidarity message that the proposed tentative agreement to establish a new peace mechanism in Korea is the only way to abolish the mistrust between the DPRK and the U.S. He recommended that the Government of the United States of America should ponder over the proposal.

B.D. Joshi, deputy general secretary of the All-India Trade Union, said in a statement that the U.S. must feel the responsibility for aggravating the tension on the Korean Peninsula and accept the new peace proposal of the DPRK.

In a statement Pierre Diowaka Ndombele, chairman of the Zairean Population Organisation for Human Liberation, expressed full support to the proposal of the DPRK to conclude a tentative agreement as part of a more durable and safe peace agreement.

The Malaysian Centre for Creation of Peace said in a statement: "We consider that the proposal of the DPRK contributes to lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula in a practical way. The U.S. should sincerely approach the proposal and respond to it."



**DPRK Cause Supported by Foreign State, Party Leaders**

*SK0904222296 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0957 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[Spellings of names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — Foreign state and party leaders expressed full support to the socialist cause of Korea when they met the DPRK ambassadors to their countries.

Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of Togo, said that His Excellency the Great Leader President Kim Il-song was the greatest friend of his and the Togolese people and the most outstanding and historically great man at the present time. "The position of Togo that 'Korea is one' remains unchanged and we hope that Korea will be reunified at an early date by means of peace", he said.

Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, president of Malta, said he is very happy to see Korea continuing to advance along the road chosen by itself under the leadership of His Excellency the Great Leader Kim Chong-il. Korea with a homogeneous nation and the same language and customs from olden times, should be reunified, he stressed.

Eddie Fenech Adami, leader of the national party and prime minister of Malta, noted that Malta will continue to support the Korean people's struggle for the reunification of the country as in the past.

Betty Frydensbjerg Carlsson, chairperson of the Communist Party of Denmark, said that the Communist Party of Denmark values relationship with the Workers' Party of Korea and always supports the WPK's policy, and will invariably support the socialist cause of Korea and the cause of national reunification.

Mujahim al-Harisha, general secretary of the Jordan National Assembly Party, said that the socialist cause pioneered by President Kim Il-song has been brilliantly accomplished in Korea under the outstanding and tested leadership of His Excellency Kim Chong-il. He added that they would make all efforts to develop the friendly relations between the two parties and the two countries.

Datuk Mohamed Bin Rahmat, general secretary of the United Malay's National Organization and minister of information of Malaysia, said when he met the delegation of the WPK that his party and the Government of Malaysia will actively strive to develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the DPRK in the future.

**DPRK: ROK Student Dies During University Office Sit-In**

*SK1004035896 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0305 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — Kwon Hui-chong, a student of Sungsin Women's University in Seoul, reportedly died on Monday [8 April] during a sit-in in the office of the university president.

She staged a hunger strike for ten days from the end of March, protesting against tuition increases and demanding the settlement of the university's educational budget be made public. On April 3 she, with her colleagues, occupied the president's office and started a sit-in.

The incident occurred when the Kim Yong-sam group was being bitterly condemned throughout South Korea for the murder by brutal suppression of a student No Su-sok of Yonsei University during a peaceful demonstration. Kwon's death has added fuel to public resentment against the "civilian" gangsters who murdered the hot-blooded students.

**DPRK: Memorial Service for ROK's No Su-sok Reported**

*SK0704080696 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0733 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 7 (KCNA) — Some 1,000 South Korean students and members of dissident organisations under the Measure Committee for the Death of No Su-sok held the second memorial service at Chongmyo Park in Seoul on April 6, a Seoul-based radio reported.

They in a statement said that the Kim Yong-sam fascist clique is trying hard to evade the responsibility afraid of the influence of the brutal murder of student No Su-sok upon the "National Assembly election".

They strongly urged immediate punishment of the director of the puppet National Police Agency and others responsible for the murder and an official apology of the puppet government.

**DPRK: ROK Students Supported in Struggle Against No's 'Murderers'**

*SK1004040396 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0309 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — A spokesman for the Education Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea released a statement on Tuesday [9 April] voicing the belief that



the South Korean students and people will staunchly fight to make the murderers of a student No Su-sok and other demonstrators pay dearly for their blood, topple the Kim Yong-sam fascist regime and establish an independent and democratic government in South Korea.

The spokesman said:

No Su-sok and other South Korean students strongly demanded the "presidential election" fund be made public and the traitor Kim Yong-sam step down. It was a righteous demand fully reflecting what the South Korean people wanted.

The present situation goes to show clearly that with the traitor Kim Yong-sam, a fascist murderer and kingpin of thieves, left unpunished, can the desire for independence, democracy and reunification never be realised, nor can South Korean patriotic-minded students and people escape from such a cruel murder as No's.

Though the Kim Yong-sam group is trying hard to harshly crack down on the just struggle of the South Korean students and people and get out of the ruling crisis, it is only the last-ditch effort of those who are doomed to ruin.

#### **DPRK: U.S. Presbyterian Church President Attends Easter Service**

*SK0904031996 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
1055 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 8 (KCNA) — An easter service was held at Pongsu Church in Pyongyang on Sunday.

It was attended by Rev. Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Christian Federation, and clergymen and laymen of the church.

Marjorie Louise Carpenter, president of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, and her associates and overseas Korean clergymen were also present.

A sermon was preached by Chief Pastor Yi Song-pong on the subject "Resurrection of Jesus Christ and Resurrection of the Nation."

"The independent and peaceful reunification of the country is the only way for the resurrection of the nation," the chief pastor said, calling on all people to pool their strength and mind for the reunification of the country.

He laid special stress on the need to intensify contact, dialogue and solidarity among Christians in the North, South and overseas for confederation-oriented reunifi-

cation through great national unity based on patriotism and the idea of national independence and to remove all the legal and physical barriers such as the "National Security Law" of South Korea at an early date.

Easter services also took place at Chilgol Church and chapels in different parts of the country.

#### **DPRK: U.S. Presbyterian Church President's Remarks Noted**

*SK0904035496 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0331 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — Marjorie Louise Carpenter, president of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, said she was deeply moved by the Korean people's worship for their leader.

She made the remark after visiting the native home of the great leader President Kim Il-song in Mangyongdae, at the head of a delegation of the church.

The Korean people value the revolutionary exploits performed by their leader and add luster to them, she said, adding that it is important for other nations to follow this example.

She hoped that Korea would be reunified in a peaceful way at an early date.

The delegation, which came here on April 6, visited the Tower of the Chuche Idea, the Grand People's Study House, the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and other places.

#### **DPRK: Yang Hyong-sop Sees Off Departing Yugoslav Delegation**

*SK0604113596 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
1010 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA) — The delegation of the Federal Assembly of Yugoslavia led by Radoman Bozovic [spelling of name as received], speaker of the Chamber of Citizens of the Federal Assembly, left here on Saturday after successfully concluding the five-day visit to Korea.

It was seen off at the airport by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), Yi Mong-ho, secretary general of the SPA Standing Committee, and others and Ljubomir Ojukic, Yugoslav ambassador to Korea.

During its stay in Korea, the delegation visited Mangyongdae and inspected the West Sea [Yellow Sea] barrage, the three revolution exhibition, the Tower of the Chuche Idea and other places.



**DPRK: Art Festival Participants Pay Homage to Kim Il-song**

*SK0704075396 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0712 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 7 (KCNA) — Foreigners and overseas Koreans staying here to participate in the 14th April Spring Friendship Art Festival visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on Saturday [6 April] to pay homage to him.

They were a group of famous actors and actresses from the Bolshoy Orchestra of the State TV and Radio Broadcasting Station of Russia; a Siberian dance troupe named after Mikhail Gozenko of Russia; a chorus group of the Daliny People's Academy of Russia; a Norwegian vocal soloist; a Malaysian art troupe; a Moldovan art troupe; an art troupe and a circus group of Mongolia; the Beseda Folk Music Troupe of Belarus; a Slovak circus group; a Canadian acrobat; a Pakistani art troupe; an instrumental soloist and a circus group of Finland; a Kazakh circus group; a Polish acrobat; an art troupe and a circus group of Italy; an Indian art troupe; a delegation of the Japan-Korea Musical and Art Interchange Society; a national dance group and a circus group of Egypt; a Spanish art troupe; and an art troupe of Korean residents in the United States.

The visitors laid bunches of flowers and made bows before the statue.

A visiting group of Korean residents in Japan and a delegation of the Association of Supporters for the Art Troupe of Koreans in the United States also laid bouquets and made bows before the statue.

**DPRK: April Spring Festival To Mark Kim Il-song's Birth 'Grandly'**

*SK0604050096 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0425 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA) — The April Spring Friendship Art Festival will be held in Pyongyang from April 7 to 17 on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Decorating the streets of the capital are posters introducing the festival, festival banners and ornaments.

The festival which began with the immortal revolutionary paean "song of General Kim Il-song" in April 1982 has been held in Pyongyang traditionally and grandly every year.

According to the festival organizing committee, the 14th festival will be participated in by nearly 60 art troupes

and delegations from more than 30 countries on the five continents and many overseas Korean artistes.

Among the participants in the festival are many renowned artistes including international and national contest winners.

Participating in the festival will be a large Chinese art troupe consisting of international and national contest winners and those who won at domestic art contests.

And a group of famous actors and actresses which consists of the most excellent players at the Bolshoi Orchestra of the State Television and Radio Broadcasting Station of Russia and a Siberian dance troupe named after Mikhail Gozenko of Russia will take part in the festival with good works.

A Mongolian art troupe which is formed with good artistes who were selected at the national art contest on the occasion of February 16, the greatest national holiday of the Korean people, will participate in the festival with special programs.

Also taking part in the festival will be a renowned Ukrainian folk dance troupe consisting of international and national contest winners and famous artistes of other countries.

Artistes of China, Cuba, Cambodia, Vietnam, Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Yugoslavia and other countries have arrived in Pyongyang, the city of the festival.

Separate and joint art performances will be given at theatres and halls before final joint performances.

**DPRK: Spring Art Festival Opens; DPRK, Foreign Leaders Attend**

*SK0804040496 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0341 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[All non-Korean names are as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 8 (KCNA) — The 14th April Spring Friendship Art Festival opened at the 6,000-seat theatre of the April 25 House of Culture in Pyongyang on April 7.

The festival has been held annually from 1982 on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Taking part in the current festival are art troupes, dance troupes and circus groups from over 30 countries in five continents of the world and overseas Korean artistes.

It will be held in the form of separate and joint performances of foreign art troupes and joint performances with Korean artistes until April 17 and festival prizes will be awarded to excellent artistes and organizations.



The opening ceremony was attended by Vice-president Pak Song-chol and Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, who are Politburo members of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, other senior party and government officials, officials concerned, diplomatic corps and military attaches corps in Korea, foreigners and overseas Koreans together with Pyongyangites.

Addressing the ceremony, Vice-premier and Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol, who is chairman of the festival organizing committee, said the participants in the current festival will adorn the 84th birth anniversary of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song more significantly with their colourful national art pieces and songs prepared with sincerity.

"The current festival that will loudly sing the songs of independence, peace and friendship again, will greatly encourage the struggle of the progressives and men of culture and art all over the world to develop and prosper together in a free and peaceful new world," he stressed.

A ceremony for hoisting the festival flag for the 14th time was held.

Vice-president Pak Song-chol said in a congratulatory speech that the festival has developed into an authoritative international art festival, displaying great attraction and enormous vitality as the years go by.

"The Korean people and the world progressive mankind will cherish the eternal image of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song more deeply in their hearts through art pieces which artistes of various countries prepared with sincerity," he said.

"The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will in the future, too, as in the past, further activate the cultural exchanges with foreign countries on the basis of the noble idea of independence, peace and friendship and do its best for development of human literature and art," he added.

Speeches were made by heads of foreign delegations and art troupes and the head of the overseas Korean art troupe.

Vice-minister of Culture Li Yuanchao, who is heading the Chinese Government cultural delegation, said the party, the government and the people of China value much the traditional friendship between the two parties, the two countries and the two peoples at all times and regard it as a steadfast long-term policy of the Chinese party and government to steadily consolidate and develop the friendship.

"The beautiful and colourful culture and art of Korea that won the fame of the Democratic People's Republic

of Korea in the world are associated with the deep solicitude and warm loving care of President Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people and a close friend of the Chinese people," he said.

Vice-minister of Culture Ivan Bogdanov, who is heading the Bulgarian Government cultural delegation, said: Our get-together shows that we are respecting and revering His Excellency Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people, and expanding cooperation among art organizations of various countries from all continents.

Vice-minister of Culture Aly Mohamed Aly Shadi, head of the Egyptian national dance troupe, said the Egyptian delegation to the Pyongyang festival has come to confirm that the Egyptian people will always stand by the Korean people as the Korean people have always stood by the Egyptian people.

Head of the Cuban art troupe Hortensia Peleteiro Rodriguez said they pray for the eternity of the great leader President Kim Il-song with a most splendid art performance now 21 months after his death.

So Sang-kak, head of the Japan-resident Korean art troupe said the overseas Korean artistes will actively participate in the festival to be held in the future in Pyongyang and actively contribute to holding in high esteem the respected General Kim Chong-il true to the behests of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song and further developing and enriching the grand flower garden of chuche art and the treasurehouse of human culture and art.

A congratulatory performance was given by artistes of Korea after the opening ceremony.

#### **DPRK: Spring Friendship Festival Participants Visit Kumsusan**

*SK0904023496 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
1012 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 8 (KCNA) — Participants in the 14th April spring friendship art festival visited the Kumsusan Memorial Palace where the great leader President Kim Il-song lies in state on April 7 and made bows to him in deep reverence.

Accompanying them were Vice-Premier and Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol, who is chairman of the festival organizing committee, and others.

The visitors wrote their impressions in the visitor's book.

Vice-minister of culture Li Yuanchao, who is heading the Chinese government cultural delegation, wrote that the great leader President Kim Il-song is alive forever



in their hearts and the impressive achievements he had made for the happiness of the people will shine for all ages.

Vice-minister of Culture Ivan Bogdanov, who is heading the Bulgarian government cultural delegation, wrote that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, a great thinker and genius of creation, will be immortal and his ideas and history are serving as sources of prosperity of Korea.

The head of the Egyptian National Dance Troupe, Aly Mohamed Aly Shadi, wrote that the respected Comrade Kim Il-song will remain an eternal leader and the sun in the struggle for freedom, independence and socialism.

Hortensia Peleteiro, head of the Cuban art troupe, wrote that President Kim Il-song was a benevolent leader not only of the Korean people but of peoples all over the world struggling for peace and social equality.

Norng Chanthan, head of the Cambodian art troupe, wrote that the whole life of the great leader President Kim Il-song represents the great history devoted to peace, prosperity and happiness of the people of Korea and the Cambodian people will be faithful to his cause alongside the Korean people.

Guido Ricci, who is heading the Italian art troupe, wrote that Comrade Kim Il-song, a great man, had set worldwide examples in present-day history and they are sure that his great ideology will emerge victorious and the Korean people will meet brilliant future.

Vasily Gaidarzh, head of the Ukrainian folk dance troupe, wrote that their minds and hearts are overwhelmed with great reverence for the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the genius, and his August name will be remembered forever in the hearts of people.

Viktor Galkin, head of the Russian Dalny People's Academia Chorus group, wrote that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who wisely led the Korean people, is still leading the people to brilliant future.

The head of the Yugoslav art troupe, Goran Trivan, wrote that he hoped the Korean people would hold in high esteem Comrade Kim Il-song in the future, too.

**DPRK: Chang Chol, Others Attend Spring Art Festival Reception**

SK0804042496 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0344 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 8 (KCNA) — The Organizing Committee for the April Spring Friendship Art Festival arranged a reception at the People's Palace of Culture on Sunday for the participants in the art festival.

Invited there were the Chinese Government cultural delegation headed by Vice-minister of Culture Li Yuan-chao, the Bulgarian Government cultural delegation headed by Vice-minister of Culture Ivan Bogdanov [name as received], foreign artistes and overseas Korean artistes.

It was addressed by Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council and minister of culture and art, who is also chairman of the festival organizing committee.

**DPRK: Thai-DPRK Symposium on Social Science Held 28-29 Mar**

SK0904023596 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
1015 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 8 (KCNA) Thailand—the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Symposium on the Trend of the Present Social Development and on the Duty and Role of Korean Social Science was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on March 28 and 29.

Present there were the deputy secretary general of the National Research Council, the deputy general secretary of the National Economic and Social Development Council to the prime minister's office, the deputy leader of the Palang Dharma (righteous force) Party, the chairman of the Association of Researchers in Social Science and other famous figures.

Speakers said that the DPRK successfully carried out the inheritance of the leadership even in the vortex of the world political situation and made anthropocentric social progress in all political, economic and cultural fields under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Thailand should make social progress in which everything serves humankind, social progress which is propelled by the creative power of men, they said.

They said the symposium is a great landmark for further promoting scientific exchanges between Thailand and the DPRK.

**DPRK Group to IPU; Ethiopia, Mongolia; U.S. Groups Visit**

SK0904223296 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
1125 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — A delegation of the Parliamentary Union of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Yi Mong-ho, secretary general of the SPA Standing Committee and vice-chairman of the Parliamentary Union,



left here today to participate in the 95th general meeting of the International Parliamentary Union [IPU] which will be held in Istanbul.

A government delegation of Ethiopia led by Sufian Ahmed, minister of Finance; M.M. Verma, director of the Centre for U.N. Studies of India; and a visiting group of the Mongolia-Korea Friendship Society for commemorating the April 15 led by O. Cherma arrived here today.

The delegation of the Presbyterian Church of the United States headed by President Carpenter Marjorie Louise left after winding up its 4-day Korea visit and Son Kyong-suk, director of the Tonga Corporation of Germany, left here today.

**DPRK: Overseas Koreans Visit Kim Il-song's Statue on Mansu Hill**

*SK0504074996 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0341 GMT 5 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA) — Russia- resident Korean Chong Il-sim and a home-visiting group of the International Korean Association (Unity) headed by its First Vice- Chairman Sok Myong-son on April 4 visited the great leader President Kim Il-song's statue on Mansu Hill here in humble reverence.

**DPRK: Foreign Visitors Visit Mansu Hill Statue**

*SK1004041996 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0320 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — A government delegation of Ethiopia led by Minister of Finance Sufian Ahmed [spelling of name as received] laid a floral basket and made a bow before the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on Tuesday [9 April].

On the same day, director of the centre for the U.N. Studies of India M.M. Verma and a visiting group of the Mongolia-Korea Friendship Society for Commemorating April 15 laid bunches of flowers and made bows before his statue.

**DPRK: Cultural, Art Troupes Visit Mansu Hill Statue**

*SK0504080696 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0401 GMT 5 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA) — A Bulgarian Government cultural delegation led by Deputy Minister of Culture Ivan Bogdanov [spelling of name as received], and a Romanian art troupe, a Bulgarian art troupe, a Bulgarian circus group, a Ukrainian folk dance troupe, a Yugoslav art troupe,

a Cuban art troupe, a Cuban circus group and an art troupe of the Korean residents in China to participate in the 14th April Spring Friendship Art Festival visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill here to pay respect to him on April 4.

They laid floral baskets and bunches of flowers and made bows before his statue.

**DPRK: Foreigners Visit International Friendship Exhibition**

*SK1004041896 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0317 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — Diplomatic representatives of different countries in the DPRK visited the International Friendship Exhibition on Tuesday [9 April] on the threshold of April 15.

The guests with deep interest saw the gifts sent by heads of state and figures from all walks of life of different countries to the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Being briefed on the more than 73,600 items of precious gifts, they praised his greatness and prayed for his immortality with deepest reverence.

They also saw valuable gifts sent by heads of state and revolutionary people of different countries to the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

**DPRK: Yanbian Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang 7 Apr**

*SK0804042396 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0330 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 8 (KCNA) — A delegation of the Yanbian Korean Autonomous Region in China led by Pang Yong-son arrived here by train on April 7.

**DPRK: Kim Chong-il Receives Gift From Yugoslav Delegation**

*SK0604100996 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
1004 GMT 6 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the federal state leadership and assembly of Yugoslavia.

The gift was handed to Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, by Radoman Bozovic [spelling of name as received], speaker of the Chamber of Citizens of the Federal Assembly of Yugoslavia.



**DPRK: Yi Chong-ok Attends Symposium Marking Kim Il-song Birthday**

*SK0904040096 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0337 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — A national symposium was held here on Monday to commemorate the 84th anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il-song's birthday.

It was stressed at the symposium that President Kim Il-song, who performed enduring achievements for the times, revolution, homeland and people under the great motto "To Believe in the People as in Heaven," is enjoying immortality as the eternal sun of chuche and his immortal revolutionary exploits remain an everlasting treasure firmly guaranteeing the happiness of humankind.

Speakers said what holds a particular place in the immortal feats made by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is that he founded the eternal guiding idea of the revolution. Under the banner of the chuche idea, he opened a new history of revolutionary party building in the era of independence, they noted.

They said Comrade Kim Il-song had wisely led the cause for liberation of the nation, class and humanity with his chuche revolutionary faith and iron will and developed the country into a powerful socialist state, independent, self-sustaining and self-reliant in defence.

He successfully solved the question of inheritance of the revolutionary cause so as to keep to the long and arduous way of the revolution, they said, adding that this is the greatest and most brilliant of his enduring achievements and a great event unprecedented in the history of the revolutionary struggle of the working class.

They said bright is the future of the Workers' Party of Korea and the revolution and the cause of socialism is sure to win, led by the great general Kim Chong-il, the supreme incarnation of faith and will, who is identical to President Kim Il-song in idea, leadership and virtue.

The speakers said that the president built up the driving force of the reunification of the country, led the revolutionary Armed Forces from victory to victory with his chuche military strategy and tactics, advanced a unique idea on independence of the world and successfully developed the present century as wished and desired by the working masses.

Present at the symposium were Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, who is also Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, other senior officials of the party and government, officials

of central organs, municipal party, administrative and economic organs, public organisations, party cadre training centres and officials of science, education, the press, literature and art and revolutionary history.

**DPRK: Overseas Koreans Pay Homage to Kim Il-song**

*SK0804060496 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0546 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 8 (KCNA) — Overseas Koreans on Sunday visited the Kumsusan Memorial Palace where the great leader President Kim Il-song is preserved in state to pay homage to him.

Russian-resident Chong Il-sim had this to say: The respected leader President Kim Il-song was the greatest man who had built the motherland, once suffered an eclipse on the world map, as the great country of people which is envied by the world people.

He will live forever in the hearts of the people the world over.

Having the respected General Kim Chong-il who is same with the respected leader is one more great fortune of our nation. Only victory and glory are in store for our nation which is wisely guided by him.

Sok Myong-son, head of the home-visiting group of the International Korean Association (Unity), wrote in the visitor's book:

The respected leader brightly lit the road ahead of our nation and gave a true life to the overseas Koreans. True to his behests, we will uphold with loyalty the guidance of General Kim Chong-il and make positive efforts to accomplish the cause of national reunification at an early date.

Vice-chairman of the Association of Koreans in Canada Kim Chong-sik made an entry in the visitor's book:

The respected leader started the revolution in his early years and realized the oath he made crossing the River Amnok to liberate our nation from the yoke colonial of Japanese imperialism and converted the country into a land of chuche.

Kim Sun-hwan, vice-chairman of the European regional headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification, wrote in the visitor's book that President Kim Il-song will be alive in the hearts of our people along with the history of the country.



**DPRK: Foreigners, Overseas Koreans Pay Homage to Kim Il-song**

*SK0704073896 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0658 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[Spelling of non-Korean names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 7 (KCNA) — Foreign visitors and overseas Koreans called at the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on Saturday [6 April] to pay homage to him.

They were a delegation of Moscow State University of Russia headed by Prof. and Dr. Aleksandr Kovalyov, chairman of the Association of Scientists for the Study of Human Affairs in the Present World; a delegation of the Presbyterian Church of the United States headed by President Carpenter Marjorie; Sonu Hak-won, honorary chairman of the U.S. headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon); Chon Sun-yong, chairperson of the Association of Koreans in Canada, and her companion; and Kim Sun-hwan, vice-chairman of the European Regional Headquarters of Pomminnyon, and his companion.

**DPRK: Kim Il-song's Life Devoted to Cause of Reunification**

*SK0604100696 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
1003 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA) — Today is the third anniversary of the publication of the grand program of the 70 million fellow countrymen for national reunification, the charter of national unity, by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The president in the historic work "10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country", which he published on April 6, 1993 one year before his death, indicated the idea that all those who are concerned about the destiny of the nation must unite as one and make a tangible contribution to the reunification of the country and the development and prosperity of a reunified land.

This proposal which provided a new milestone for the reunification in the 90s is the most brilliant feat performed by him for the reunification of the country. His whole life is linked with unremitting activities for national reunification. He put his heart and soul into national reunification from the first day when the country was divided, saying that national reunification is the biggest gift he can give to the Korean people.

He signed a document on the summit talks for reunification at the last moment of his life and thus performed an immortal exploit which will be eternally recorded with

golden letters in the history of the reunification movement.

He set forth independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity as the three principles of national reunification in the early 1970s and the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and its 10-point policy at the sixth congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in the 1980s. And in his many works and in his meeting with South Koreans and overseas compatriots and foreigners, he repeatedly clarified that confederacy is the only way to reunify the country independently, peacefully and through concerted efforts of the nation.

The president met many renowned South Koreans and overseas compatriots for the reunification of the country and frankly discussed the question of reunification with them. Among them are Choe Tok-sin, Kim Song-nak and Mun Ik-hwan.

As he longed for the reunification of the country so ardently, he took care of the South Koreans with paternal feelings, always remembering them. He sent to the South Korean flood victims 50,000 soks of rice, 500,000 metres of textile, 100,000 tons of cement and 759 boxes of 14 kinds of medicines ten years ago.

Today the world people highly praise the policy of national reunification which was clarified by the president as a highly important guideline which indicates the most correct way of reunifying Korea.

**DPRK: Kim Il-song Birthplace Said 'Holy Land of Revolution'**

*SK0904222796 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0935 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — Mangyongdae, the holy land of revolution, is situated about 12 kilometres southwest of Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Great Leader President Kim Il-song was born and spent childhood there.

The Korean people have magnificently turned the time-honored place into a revolutionary site with deep respect and reverence for him.

Preserved there with utmost care are his old home, study site, Sunhwa School, Tongnim Pier, etc. Showing his revolutionary history and exploits of his family members.

His old home is a small straw-thatched house where his family had lived through generations from his great grandfather. The president was born at this time-honored



house located at the foot of Mangyong Hill on April 15, 1912 and spent childhood there, being educated in patriotism by his parents.

When he was thirteen years old, he left the house with a grim resolve not to return before Korea had become independent.

He came back to his old home in October 1945, twenty years later, after he accomplished the historic cause of national restoration by organizing and triumphantly leading the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

A monument to his triumphant return home was erected at the ferry on the River Sunhwa.

The monument says President Kim Il-song exchanged greetings with people and delivered a historic speech upon his triumphant return at a Pyongyang mass meeting before coming to Mangyongdae and meeting with his family members and relatives.

The Mangyongdae Revolutionary Museum, which was opened in April 1970, shows his revolutionary history and feats of his family members in a comprehensive and systematic way.

Most of its materials are related to Mangyongdae.

A large number of local people and foreigners visit the old home and the museum every year.

**DPRK Article on Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il  
'Imperishable Feats'**

SK1004022496 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0930 GMT 9 Apr 96

["President Kim Il-song's Feats in Party Building Will Always Be Shining"; Article of Kenichi Ogami" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — Kenichi Ogami, "International Kim Il-song Prize" winner, general secretary of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea and permanent chairman of the Japanese Society for the Study of Kimilsongism, recently published an article on imperishable feats performed by the great leaders President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il in the building of a chuche-type party.

Under the subtitle "The Respected President Kim Il-song Is a Great Man Who Performed Undying Feats With Chuche-Based Ideas and Theories of Party Building" he said:

The ideas and theories on party building of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), founded by President Kim Il-song and led by Comrade Kim Chong-il, are an inspiring banner of the revolutionary parties around the world

for their originality, truthfulness, many-sidedness and universal validity.

The history of the WPK was started by the revolutionary activities of the president for preparations for its founding.

He, reflecting the demand of a new era, the era of independence, elucidated the unique ideas of party building and policies of party activities, which could not be found in the already established theories, and guided party building and party activities in an original way.

One of the specialities of his activities for party building is that he, from the days when he started the revolution, regarded party building as vital to the revolution and conducted energetic activities for the foundation of a party with solid foundations, mixing himself with the people.

Another speciality is that he was the first in human history to carry on party building and party activities guided by the chuche idea.

On the basis of the chuche idea and the rich experience he gained while leading the revolutionary struggle at different stages, he consummated chuche-based ideas and theories on party building in a comprehensive way, performing immortal feats in the building of a working-class party.

His ideas and theories based on the great chuche idea and run through with creation and innovation indicate fresh and unique fundamentals, principles and ways of party building without regard to approved theories and practice. So, they are a powerful ideological and theoretical weapon for the consolidation and invincibility of the working-class party.

President Kim Il-song not only founded the WPK and strengthened and developed it to be an invincible party but laid solid foundations for the continuity of the party's cause from long ago with his distinguished clairvoyance.

His ideas and leadership have been successfully carried forward by another great man, Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The WPK, guided by Comrade Kim Chong-il, has become a revolutionary party enjoying high prestige, invincible might and absolute support and trust of the people and confidently led the revolution and construction.

Over the past five decades after its foundation, the WPK has won a great victory in the revolution and construction by leading the masses of the people and gained valuable and rich experience.



In leading the revolution and construction, it has always defended the demand and interests of the masses, depended on them and continued the revolution with them, accumulating precious experience.

The WPK has established *chuche* and maintained an independent line in leadership to the revolution and construction. This is also valuable experience it gained in its activities.

In leading the revolution and construction, it has maintained revolutionary principles and constantly implemented the revolutionary line and policies, thus acquiring priceless experience in party activities.

Comrade Kim Chong-il set three tasks to accomplish the cause of Korean socialism, achieve national reunification and make a tangible contribution to the human cause of independence, true to the behests of President Kim Il-song, and set them as the general goal for the accomplishment of his cause. In order to carry them out, Comrade Kim Chong-il indicated the general direction of party building, which is to strengthen and develop the WPK so that it will remain the party of the president forever.

Indeed, President Kim Il-song was the founder of a new revolutionary party guided by the *chuche* idea and, with the foundation of the WPK, the history of a revolutionary party of *chuche* type could start in the era of independence.

As Comrade Kim Chong-il guides the WPK, President Kim Il-song's feats in party building will be shining long and the WPK will always remain the party of the president, demonstrating its might all over the world.

#### **DPRK: Art Festival Participants See Film on Kim Il-song, Chong-il**

*SK0904033796 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0323 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — Participants in the 14th April Spring Friendship Art Festival saw the Korean documentary film "They Always Worked Together for the People" at the People's Palace of Culture on Monday.

The film shows that in his lifetime the great leader President Kim Il-song, together with the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, shaped the line and policies of the Workers' Party of Korea for the people, triumphantly guided the revolution and construction and successfully solved the issue of continued leadership for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of *chuche*.

It made a deep impression on the audience.

#### **DPRK: Chongnyon Official Pays Homage to Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill**

*SK1004042196 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0319 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — Kim Su-sik, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on Tuesday.

He laid a bouquet of flowers and made a bow before his statue.

#### **DPRK: Chang Chol Attends Opening of Film Festival on Kim Il-song**

*SK1004035496 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0303 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — A ten-day film show has begun to mark the birth anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il-song, April 15.

Films showing his glorious and brilliant revolutionary history, undying feats and noble traits are screened at all cinema houses and cultural halls throughout the country from April 9 to 18.

Also screened are films showing the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Chong-il, who always worked together with President Kim Il-song for the people and made tireless efforts to successfully accomplish the revolutionary cause of the president through generations.

The beginning ceremony of the film show took place at the Pyongyang International Cinema House on Tuesday.

It was attended by Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council and minister of culture and art, officials concerned and working people in the city.

#### **DPRK: Chang Chol Attends Opening of Art Exhibition on Kim Il-song**

*SK1004040596 Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0316 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — A national art exhibition "The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song Will Always Be With Us" opened here on Tuesday [9 April] to commemorate April 15.

Displayed are works showing the whole course of the brilliant revolutionary activities covered by the great leader President Kim Il-song and more than 50 works on the noble traits of the great leader Comrade Kim



Chong-il, who is creditably carrying forward the chuche revolutionary cause started by the president.

Among the works are a Korean painting "The Great Leader and the Dear Leader Standing by Lake Chon on Mt. Paektu", a Korean jewel picture "Recollecting the Days of Anti-Japanese Struggle", a Korean painting "Ever-Victorious Iron-Willed Brilliant Commander General Kim Il-song, Who Defeated the U.S. Imperialists", an oil-painting "We Will Trust and Follow the Great General Kim Chong-il".

Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council and minister of culture and art, made an opening address.

**DPRK: Health Officials, Workers Lay Flowers at Kim Il-song Statue**

SK0604040996 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0340 GMT 6 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA) — Health officials and workers here on Friday laid a floral basket and bouquets before the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on the day of public health.

Recollecting the immortal feats of President Kim Il-song, who showed a bright course of socialist public health and provided the best public health system, they resolved to effect new innovation in the public health service under the guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

On the same day, provincial, city and county health workers laid floral baskets and bunches before the statues of President Kim Il-song in their resident places.

**DPRK: Anniversary of Birth of Kim Il-song Commemorated Overseas**

SK0604095496 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0945 GMT 6 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 6 (KCNA) — The birth anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il-song was commemorated in different countries.

Commemoration meetings were held in Helsinki of Finland, Wiener Neustadt of Austria, Conakry of Guinea and at patriot newspaper office of Russia.

At meetings speakers said that President Kim Il-song is the great man who devoted his whole life to the people and the great leader with the extraordinary far-sightedness.

He is the greatest man who performed immortal exploits for the Korean people and the world people and that his

exploits will remain long in the hearts of the Korean people and the world people, they said.

Meanwhile, film shows and photo exhibitions were given at the parliamentary building of Guinea, an assembly hall of the Malagasy Ministry of Armed Forces, the Chuche School of Madagascar, the Nepalese National Committee for Remembering the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the Dar es Salaam Technical College of Tanzania, the Tank School of the Mechanized Unit of the Ugandan People's Defence Forces, Malabo of Equatorial Guinea, Akaki of Ethiopia, Moscow and the Energomachexport Co., Ltd of Russia.

**DPRK: Post, Telecommunications Workers Lay Flowers Before Statues**

SK0904035196 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0329 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — Officials and working people of the post and telecommunications across the country laid floral baskets before the statues of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Monday, the day of post and telecommunications.

Officials and working people of the post and telecommunications in the city including those of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, the Korean Central Telecommunications Office, the Central Post and Periodical Conveyance Office, the International Communications Centre and the Pyongyang Earth Station laid floral baskets and bouquets before statues of the president on Mansu Hill and other places in Pyongyang.

Those in provinces, cities and counties also laid floral baskets and bunches of flowers before his statues in their areas.

**DPRK: Chang Chol Addresses Meet on Kim Il-song Environmental Work**

SK0904222496 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
1059 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA) — A national meeting was held here today to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the publication of "On Improving the Work of Protecting the Environment," an immortal famous work of the Great Leader President Kim Il-song.

President Kim Il-song in his work comprehensively indicated the essence, demand and constant principle in the work of protecting the environment in socialist society and the tasks and ways.

Making a report at the meeting, Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Chang Chol said:



"President Kim Il-song put forward the *chuche*-based and unique idea and theory on the environment protection and energetically led the work for their realisation.

"The president made a classical formulation for the first time in history that the environment protection is the work to maintain and preserve natural environment favourable to the existence and activities of people and turn unfavourable natural environment into favourable one and thus, made it work for the popular masses both in name and reality.

"He regarded the environment protection as vital to the party and the state to provide the popular masses with an independent and creative life and always paid deep attention to it to bring about a great upswing. This is an immortal feat performed by him for the party and the revolution.

"True to his noble intention, the respected Comrade Kim Chong-il has taken the state steps to improve the environment protection in the past period and turned Korea into a country free from pollution, a paradise where all the people sing of a long life in good health.

"In order to defend the immortal feats performed by the president in the environment protection and improve the nation's environment protection as intended by General Kim Chong-il, big efforts should be directed to preventing pollution to provide the people with more hygienic and cultured working conditions and life circumstances and further promote the health of the working people."

#### **DPRK: Security, Military Honor Kim Chong-il as Defense Chief**

*SK1004032396 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0301 GMT 10 Apr 96*

["Evenings Mark Anniversary of Election of Comrade Kim Chong-il" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — Evenings of servicemen of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces and the Ministry of Public Security and youths and students in Pyongyang took place on April 9 on the occasion of the third anniversary of the election of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, respected supreme commander, as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The soldiers of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces held an evening at the Jongsung square.

Present there were Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the National Defence

Commission of the DPRK and minister of the People's Armed Forces; KPA [Korean People's Army] Vice Marshal Cho Myong-nok, director of the General Political Department of the KPA; leading officials of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces and officers and men of the three services of the KPA.

To the tune of the songs "Glory to the Dear Leader" and "The Dear Leader Is With Us" the participants in the evening unfolded a sea of dances and extended the greatest glory to Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is deeply revered and praised by all the people for his epoch-making example in the building of self-reliant national defence forces.

Servicemen of the Ministry of Public Security held a meeting of loyal pledge before the statue of President Kim Il-song standing in the compound of the ministry.

KPA Vice Marshal Paek Hak-nim, minister of public security, senior officials and servicemen of the ministry were present there.

They renewed their resolve to become rifles and bombs firmly defending the respected general Kim Chong-il with their lives as well as politically and ideologically.

Then followed a march-past and a celebration evening.

When fireworks were set off in the sky, a colorful performance and dance of the servicemen began.

Youths and students in Pyongyang had celebration evenings in different places of the capital.

#### **DPRK: KPA Units Honor Kim Chong-il's Election as Defense Chairman**

*SK1004033596 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0329 GMT 10 Apr 96*

["KPA Units Remember Comrade Kim Chong-il's Election as Chairman of DPRK National Defence Commission" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — The units of the Korean People's Army [KPA] held rallies to mark the third anniversary of the election of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK on Tuesday [9 April].

Reporters said supreme commander of the Korean People's Army Comrade Kim Chong-il's election as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK at the fifth session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly on April 9, 1993, was a magnificent event which met the aspiration and wish of the Korean people and the officers and men of the People's Army to have their leader at the head of the national defence forces



and follow him and a great historic event in further strengthening the defence capabilities of the country and victoriously advancing the Korean revolution.

They noted that with the respected Comrade Kim Chong-il at the head of the self-reliant defence forces, the chuche revolution started by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song could reliably be defended down through generations, and eternal victory could be guaranteed for the country and revolution and the cause of army building.

The great Comrade Kim Chong-il has strengthened the country's defence forces as firm as rock, regarding defence of the country as the most important of national affairs, they said, and went on:

No one on earth can match our people and People's Army advancing under his leadership.

They called on all people to more powerfully fight for the country's reunification and the accomplishment of the chuche revolutionary cause, firmly rallied around the Comrade Kim Chong-il under the red flag of the revolution associated with the whole life of the fatherly leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

**DPRK: Meetings, Performances Honor Kim Chong-il as Defense Chief**

*SK1004034196 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0333 GMT 10 Apr 96*

["Anniversary of Comrade Kim Chong-il's Election as Chairman of National Defence Commission Marked" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — Meetings and art performances were held across the country to celebrate the third anniversary of the election of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

Chu Song-il, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea (GFTUK), made a speech at a celebration meeting held at the Central Workers' House on April 7 before the Central Workers' Propaganda Group of the GFTUK gave a performance.

Performers put on the stage art pieces impressively showing the noble traits of the respected supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il and the invariable faith of the Korean people and the officers and men of the People's Army to accomplish the cause of the country's reunification and the chuche revolution without fail, firmly united around him.

Present there were secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Chung-nin, officials

concerned, officials of the trade unions and working people in Pyongyang.

On the same day, an art performance was given by officials and members of the Women's Union in the city at the Taedongmun Cinema House.

In a song "Our General Is Best", a trio "A Tankman and a Girl" and other pieces performers showed well the invincible strength of the Korean people, who believe they are ever-victorious, led by the respected Comrade Kim Chong-il, and the traditional trait of Army-people unity.

Colourful celebration performances are taking place at theatres in the capital and local areas from April 8.

**DPRK: Yi Chong-ok, Others Attend Rally Honoring Kim Chong-il**

*SK1004003096 Pyongyang Korean Central  
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A central report meeting was held at the 25 April Cultural Hall on 9 April marking the third anniversary of the election of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leader [yongdoja] of our party and people, as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission. [passage omitted]

Seated on the rostrum were party and state cadres — Comrades Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol; Vice President Kim Pyong-sik; Comrades Choe Kwang, Kim Yong-nam, Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho, Kim Chol-man, Choe Tae-pok, Hong Song-nam, Choe Yong-nim, Yang Hyong-sop, Hong Sok-hyong, Cho Myong-nok, Kim Kwang-chin, Paek Hak-nim, Yi Ha-il, Kim Ik-hyon, Kim Ki-nam, Hwang Chang-yop, Kim Chung-nin, So Kwan-hui, Kim Yong-sun, Kim Pok-sin, Chang Chol, Yun Ki-pok, and Chon Mun-sop; and Mrs. Yu Mi-yong — as well as responsible functionaries of party and power organs and working organizations, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, commanders of all branches and services of the Korean People's Army, and generals of the People's Army. [passage omitted]

**DPRK: Kim Kwang-chin Speaks at Anniversary Meeting**

*SK1004113696 Pyongyang Korean Central  
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0802 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[Congratulatory speech by Kim Kwang-chin, member of the DPRK National Defense Commission and vice marshal of the Korean People's Army, at a central report meeting to mark the third anniversary of Kim Chong-il's election as chairman of the DPRK National



Defense Commission, held at the 25 April Cultural Hall in Pyongyang — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] Comrades, in the historic road of advance for the entire party, the entire army, and all of the people to vigorously manifest the spirit of socialist Korea by highly upholding the red flag of the revolution and in the militant environment of creating new feats, we welcome today the third anniversary marking the high election of respected and beloved [kyongaehanun] Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission. On the occasion of this significant day, all of our people and officers and men of the People's Army are overflowing with great national pride and self-confidence at highly upholding the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il [kyongaehanun kimjongil changgunnim] who is an ever-victorious iron-willed commander, at the pinnacle of defense power [kukpangnyokui choego-suwi] with the People's Army at the core. Also, they are all the more firmly bracing the revolutionary resolution to complete the chuche revolutionary cause to the end by single-heartedly uniting around the great general [widaehan changgunnim].

At the fifth meeting of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly on 9 April 1993, in the presence of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song, the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il [kyongaehanun kimjongil changgunnim] was elected as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission reflecting the consistent desire and will of all the people and officers and men of the People's Army. This was a historic event and a great felicitous event having enormous significance in the strengthening of the country's defense power [kukpangnyok] and the victorious advance of our revolutionary cause. [applause]

By highly upholding the respected and beloved [kyongaehanun] Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il at the pinnacle of the self-reliant national defense power [chawichok kukpangnyokui choego suwi], it was possible to firmly defend the chuche revolutionary cause generation after generation, and a bright prospect of eternally pressing hard on the heels of the enemy was unfolded in the advance road of our fatherland, revolution, and cause of military building.

As shown in the revolutionary struggle history of the working class and the history of military building, if we are to resolutely advocate the revolutionary cause of the leader [suryong] and complete it to the end, we must uphold a leader [yongdoja] who is endlessly loyal to the leader [suryong] who heads the country's defense power [kukpangnyok] at the fore and who completely

possesses both the natural disposition and character of a politician and militarist.

A country and nation upholding an outstanding commander at the pinnacle of defense power [kukpangnyokui suwi] is always ever-victorious, but countries and nations that do not, cannot defend political independence and sovereignty and ultimately will be (?strangled) by outside forces. This is a lesson from history.

Our people and officers and men of the People's Army highly uphold the respected and beloved [kyongaehanun] Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il at the pinnacle of defense power [kukpangnyokui choego suwi], regard him as a distinguished commander possessing clairvoyant, outstanding wisdom, peerless courage, and a lofty natural disposition, who wisely led our people and the People's Army to achieve immortal military achievements which will be eternally elucidated in history. [applause]

Having inherited all the extraordinary traits of the great leader [widaehan suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song who defeated two powerful imperialist enemies in one generation, and of Comrade Kim Chong-suk who is a legendary woman general of the anti-Japanese struggle, the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il [kyongaehanun kimjongil changgunnim] grew up listening to the sounds of guns in the anti-Japanese war. Also, during the arduous fatherland liberation war period, he came to have an understanding of a commander's wisdom and resourcefulness in spite of his young age while participating in meetings where he sat down at the table to map out plans for operations of the highest command. And during his school days, through profound ideological and theoretical activities and military practice, he extraordinarily developed and enriched the chuche-oriented military ideology, theory, strategy and tactics, and war method, and for some 30 years, he led our party and revolution, thus consolidating the country's defense capacity [pangwiryok] into an impregnable fortress.

The strong and mighty self-defense forces and all-people defense system, which firmly ensure the wealth and prosperity of our nation and our fatherland militarily, are the brilliant fruition of the energetic leadership of the respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il. He has thoroughly embodied the principle of self-defense in defending the nation by upholding the great leader's [suryongnimui] chuche-based military ideas. [applause]

The great general paid priority attention to intensifying, in every way, the People's Army, the basic force of the revolutionary armed forces, and devoted all his



efforts and labor to this work. Thus, he made historic achievements in strengthening and developing our People's Army into the army of the leader [suryong]; the army of the party, and the army of the people both in name and reality. [applause]

The respected and beloved comrade supreme commander put forward a unique program on chuche-orientation of the whole army for military building and saw to it that the political and ideological indoctrination work continues to be constantly intensified within the People's Army. He wisely led the army so that a thoroughgoing military commanding system is established under which the whole army moves as one under the party's unitary leadership.

Today all officers and men of our People's Army have been credibly prepared as loyal combat ranks that will defend, at the risk of their lives, the nerve-center of the revolution headed by [subanuro hanun hyongmyonui sunoeburul] the respected and beloved general under any adverse situation by cherishing the sense of absolute worship to their leader. The thoroughgoing commanding system under which the army moves as one at the order of the supreme commander; strict military discipline, and revolutionary military outlook have been firmly established in the whole army. This fully demonstrates the justness and vitality of the unique policy put forward by the great General Kim Chong-il on constantly heightening the political and ideological might of the People's Army. [applause]

The respected and beloved comrade supreme commander also attached great significance to the work of strengthening the military technological might of the revolutionary armed forces in addition to heightening their political and ideological might. He energetically led the People's Army so as to carry to accomplishment modernization and the turning of the whole army into the army of cadres at a high level.

Following the policy put forward by the respected and beloved general, all officers and men of the army firmly armed themselves with the chuche-based military idea and tactics, and strengthened their combat training. As a result, they grew to be almighty fighters capable of skillfully fulfilling the assigned combat mission under any condition.

Under the wise leadership and warm care of the great general, arms and equipment of the People's Army have become more powerful and modernized in compliance with the demand of modern warfare. Thus, our revolutionary armed forces have been fostered and strengthened into indomitable, ever-victorious combat ranks possessed of powerful offensive and defensive

means which enable them to annihilate any strong enemy with one stroke at any time and any place.

By brilliantly realizing the arming of all people and the turning of the whole nation into a fortress, the respected and beloved supreme commander General Kim Chong-il firmly established a defense system of all people and the whole country throughout the nation. This is a great achievement he made by leading the struggle to strengthen the nation's defense power. [applause]

The great general [widaehan changgunnim] deeply felt from early on that the country's political independence and sovereignty can be firmly defended only when a strong defense system is established throughout the country by combining stand-by regular forces with non-stand-by civilian forces. He established the organizational commanding system to strengthen the combat capacity of the civilian forces in a well-organized manner including the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and the Red Youth Guards; ordered that the training program be thoroughly executed; and came up with revolutionary measures so that organizations of each class party directly adhere to and guide the civilian forces.

Regardless of the frontline, the sea, and rear region, the great general [widaehan changgunnim] put forth ways and methods to all the more completely realize the work of fortifying the whole country, and wisely led this work.

Due to the extraordinary leadership of the respected and beloved Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il [kyongaehanun choegosaryongwan kimjongil changgunnim] who is the commander of the military, in the event of an emergency, our civilian forces including the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and the Red Youth Guards as well as the People's Army and cooperative farms are able to independently sweep away attacking enemies; have grown up into a mighty force able to firmly defend their work place and village; and firmly changed the whole country into an impregnable fortress. [applause]

Developing national defense industry on our own strength, technology, and resources, is our party's consistent policy. Through the struggle to implement the respected and beloved [kyongaehanun] comrade supreme commander's plan and intention on developing the chuche-oriented national defense industry, the spirit of chuche and independence of our national defense industry was all the more strengthened; modernization and automation reached a high level; and was consolidated into a mighty self-reliant national defense industry to stand face to face with modern warfare in whatever environment.



He inherited the ideology of army-people unity which was highly evident during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle period under the leadership of the great leader [widaehan suryongnim], and wholly embodied it so that the blood-linked relations between the army and people was intensified and developed to a new high. This is a brilliant leadership achievement which was accumulated by the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il [kyongaehanun kimjongil changgunnim] in the road to strengthening defense power [kukpangnyok]. [applause]

He proposed that highly manifesting the traditional virtue of army-people unity is an important task for the victorious advance of military building and the socialist cause, and made it so that this work can be carried out into an all masses and all social movement. The fundamental guarantee of such wise leadership of the great general [widaehan changgunnim] is vigorously manifesting itself at a new high the traits in our country of the people loving the army as though it were their own blood; actively assisting the army both materially and morally; and the army defending the lives and property of the people by even sacrificing its lives.

Today, the blood-tied army-people relations which is becoming all the more heated with each passing day in our society, clearly prove that our people and officers and men of the People's Army have formed complete harmony and single-hearted unity which cannot be separated by anything on the one road of loyally upholding the respected and beloved [kyongaehanun] Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il and defending him through the do-or-die spirit. [applause]

The respected and beloved Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il, despite his busy days inheriting the fatherly leader's [suryongnim] revolutionary cause and leading the overall work of the party and the state, is always with them, vigorously encouraging and inspiring our people and officers and men of our People's Army into the sacred struggle to strengthen national defense capability.

Last year, the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander — who always deems it a great joy to be with brave fighters of the People's Army, members of the Worker-Peasant Militia, and members of the Red Youth Guard who are defending the party and the revolution with arms and protecting the fatherland, the people, work sites, and villages — started embarking on the road of on-the-spot guidance since New Year's Day by visiting frontline soldiers.

On Lunar New Year's this year, the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander visited a women's company of the Korean People's Army

[KPA], KPA units defending the Hill 351 in the east sector of the frontline, and an Air Force unit. After this, he continued to conduct energetic on-the-spot guidance in the entire frontline area.

Without having the time to relieve the multiple layers of fatigue, the great general inspected the Taejoksan outpost in the western sector of the frontline, called the home of one-a-match-for-100, and KPA units located in the area of Mt. Osong in the central sector of the frontline. He also inspected the historic sites of the revolution of the KPA 512d unit and presented a programmatic task to further strengthen and develop our People's Army into an invincible revolutionary armed force. He also gave meticulous guidance to the work at various units, including art and sports organizations under the Ministry of People's Armed Forces.

The respected and beloved Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il's historic inspection of the entire frontline area is a great, encouraging banner vigorously whipping up the Army and the people into the struggle to strengthen and develop our revolutionary armed forces and to achieve the final victory of the chuche revolutionary cause. [applause]

Infinitely encouraged by the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander's ceaseless on-the-spot guidances and inspections, all officers and men of the People's Army are filled to overflowing with the firm determination to prepare themselves more firmly to becoming vanguards and do-or-die units resolutely defending the great general.

Indeed, the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il's restless and sleepless energetic leadership and his fatherly love show that the relations between the supreme commander and soldiers in our country are not relations of order and obedience, but blood relations between parents and children, that is, the relations of firm unity. They have also become not only the lifeline of loyalty and exploits of our People's Army and our civilian armed forces [mingan muryok] who are firmly defending our socialist fortress, but also the source of our powerful and mighty national defense capabilities. [applause]

Our party's chuche-oriented military line has been brilliantly implemented under the wise leadership of the great general. As a result, we can say with high dignity and honor and with certainty, that we possess the invincible defensive capabilities capable of sternly smashing any aggressors and reliably defending the noble gains of our revolution which reflect the fatherly leader's [suryongnim] whole life. [applause]



The great achievements made by the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander in the course of the struggle to strengthen the defense capability are boundlessly valuable revolutionary assets that firmly ensure the dignity and sovereignty of our socialist fatherland, the nation's endless growth and prosperity, and the victory of the chuche revolutionary cause, and this is powerful proof of the greatness of our general, the peerless brilliant commander. [applause]

Because the respected and beloved Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il stands at the head of national defense and has solidified the country's defense capability like an impregnable fortress, we have been continuously victorious in the fierce political and military confrontation to dependably defend the country's security and national sovereignty from the enemy, and to more vigorously demonstrate the invincibility of our-style socialism centered on the popular masses, despite the collapse of socialism in a number of countries in recent years and the maneuvers and series of explosive crises by the imperialists and reactionaries to isolate and crush [korip apsal] our country—the fortress of socialism.

Because we uphold the iron-willed brilliant commander Comrade Kim Chong-il who has built our socialist fatherland into a great power of politics and ideology and an invincible military power with his great ideology and refined leadership so that we can display to the entire world the dignity and authority of Kim Il-song Korea and Kim Il-song nation, our people and the officers and men of the People's Army are always confident and are filled with the faith of unfailing victory and optimism that they will defeat any imperialist group of aggression at a stroke. [applause]

Truly, it is the greatest honor, happiness, and pride of our people and the People's Army to uphold at the pinnacle of defense capabilities, the respected and beloved Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il who has the highest level of wisdom, courage, and benevolence and whose proud victories decorate the annals of the chuche revolution. [applause]

At this significant meeting that is overflowing with boundless adoration for the great general, we offer—with the burning mind of the loyalty of all the people and officers and men of the People's Army—the greatest honor and warmest gratitude to the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il—the great leader of our party and our people, the chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and the supreme commander of the KPA who brilliantly inherits and develops the chuche Army-building cause pioneered by the fatherly leader and has made immortal achievements which will shine forever

in building our self-defending defense capability—and respectfully wish the respected and beloved general long life and good health. [applause]

Comrades:

Today, our people and People's Army officers and men have the honorable and responsible task of strengthening the national defense ability in every way and hastening the consummation of the fatherland reunification and the chuche revolutionary cause, bearing national dignity and pride in upholding Comrade Kim Chong-il, an outstanding military strategist and an ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander, at the top of national defense. [applause]

The Great Leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il noted: We should further strengthen the national defense ability by continuously and thoroughly implementing the party's self-defensive military lines, with great dignity and pride. If the enemy dares to assault us, we should fight in a fairly good manner to demonstrate again the heroic DPRK people's invincible might all over the world.

Today, a quite tense situation [maeu chomyehan chongse] prevails in our country due to the antireunification and anti-Republic maneuvers by the South Korean puppets influenced by the outside forces' instigation, which becomes all the more vicious with each passing day.

Lately, the South Korean puppet traitor has ceaselessly made outbursts that reek of gunpowder and that force our reaction, talking about fictitious forward military deployment and the so-called threat from the North. Availing itself of the U.S. policy to crush [apsal] the DPRK, the enemy has constantly conducted various war exercises, which have replaced the Team Spirit joint military exercise, on a large scale and at a lightening tempo since the beginning of this year. At this moment, it is conducting a frenzied fire game of war [kwanggi orin chonjaeng pulchangnan] in the sky, land, and sea of South Korea to attack us, mobilizing large troops of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. These are quite alarming military moves that are normally seen only at the scene of war [ojik chonjaeng hyonjangeman polsu innun maeu simsangchi anun kunsajok umjigim].

Due to the South Korean puppets' belligerent maneuvers, the southern area of the Demilitarized Zone [DMZ] has completely lost its essential meaning as a buffer zone, and the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] and the DMZ established in accordance with the Armistice Agreement has turned into an armed zone for northward invasion and a new attack position.



Under a situation in which the trigger for northward invasion has already been pulled by the South Korean puppets, the question is not whether a war will take place on the Korean Peninsula, but when it will break out. [namjosen koeroedure uihayo pukchim kyokpal-giga imi tanggyojin sangtaeso munjenun chosonbandeso chonjaengi ironagennunga malgennunga hanungosi anira onje chonjaengi tojigennunga hanunde issumnida]

The U.S. ultra rightist conservatives' active behind-the-scenes encouragement of the South Korean puppets' indiscreet war commotion makes the situation more serious. Our People's Army, which has for a long time watched with due alertness the enemy's sophistry on a so-called peace guarantee on the Korean Peninsula and the solution to problems through dialogue, cannot look on today's situation, where dialogue is changing into a war [tachwaga chonjaenguro tungaphago innun onurui satae], with folded arms.

At this severe time when it is clear that the South Korean puppets have made up their minds for a real war [silchonul chakchonghaetta], it is quite natural for our People's Army to seek countermeasures, and our countermeasures cannot help but include measures to cope with a situation in which the position of the MDL and DMZ can no longer be maintained.

The mission of our Revolutionary Armed Forces to defend the security of the country and the gains of the revolution is not limited to defending the act of aggression. Responding to fire with fire and responding to a club with a club is the disposition of our Army.

All the people, including the officers and men of our People's Army and the members of the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and the Red Youth Guards, are sharply watching every movement of the enemy, and if the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets dare intrude into our territorial land, air, and sea even one inch, we will smash them with a strong self-defending measure and totally exterminate the source of war on the Korean Peninsula. [kangnyokhan chawijok chochiro chiumunggaeborigo choson pandoeso chonjaengui kunwonul songdurichae turonaegoya malkkosimnida] [applause]

The U.S. imperialists and their cat's paw must not make a miscalculation regarding the firm and resolute position of our people and revolutionary armed forces, and they must contemplate the lethal consequences that the antirepublic crushing maneuver [apsal chaekdong] and new war provocation maneuver being carried out by the enemies will bring about, and must not act rashly.

All the people and the officers and men of the People's Army should hold aloft the red flag of the revolution and firmly solidify the three positions of our-style socialism — the socialist political and ideological, economic, and military positions — as impregnable fortresses to powerfully display the spirit of socialist Korea and dependably defend the security of the country from the enemy's encroachment. [applause]

Loyalty to the leader [suryong] is the foremost expression of revolutionary fidelity, and the might of our political and ideological position consists in the wholehearted unity of the revolutionary rank based on loyalty to the leader and the spirit of defending the leader.

The spirit of defending the leader is the indomitableness of defending the nerve-center of the revolution with their bodies as a shield against the enemy's bullets, the resoluteness of fighting like a wild animal in matters related to the dignity of the leader without the slightest concession, and the loyalty and filial dutifulness of defending the well-being of the leader at any time and place and realizing the leader's intent, making flowers bloom even on stone.

The respected and beloved supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il is our destiny and the supreme brain of the revolution, and defending the great general at the cost of our lives is the firm faith and will of our people and People's Army. [applause]

All the people and the officers and men of the People's Army should defend and protect the nerve-center of the revolution headed by the Great General Kim Chong-il, cherishing deep in their hearts the leader-defending spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs and with the entire party membership, the entire Army, and all the people becoming a present-day Seventh Regiment. [applause]

The People's Army should hold aloft the slogan "Let the entire Army become a present-day Seventh Regiment that defends the nerve-center of the revolution at the cost of one's life," and vigorously conduct the movement to win the title of the O Chung-hup Seventh Regiment so that all the officers and men may become the most enthusiastic adorers of the comrade supreme commander and rifles and bombs for him to add further luster to the glorious leader-defending tradition of our revolutionary armed forces.

All officers and men of the People's Army should more firmly establish the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il's army-leading system so that a revolutionary military discipline, under which the entire Army absolutely follows the comrade supreme commander's order,



unconditionally implements it, and moves as one under it, can be firmly established.

Officers and men of the People's Army should establish an iron- firm military discipline, strengthen lectures regarding military regulations, and carry out unit management and military service life according to the demands of military regulations so as to more thoroughly establish the genuine appearance of the KPA as the revolutionary army.

Officers and men of the People's Army should firmly arm themselves with the chuche-oriented military ideology and battle methods, should establish a revolutionary training ethos, and prepare themselves to become almighty commanders and energetic one- is-a-match-for-100 fighters. In this way they should see to it that the laudable custom of unity between officers and men, the laudable custom of unity between party members and [word indistinct], and the spirit of loving the army pervade all units. They should also constantly modernize the People's Army's arms and equipment, more firmly build military positions into impregnable fortresses, and make perfect combat mobilization preparations. In this way, they should immediately and thoroughly check [cheap] the enemies if they persistently ignite the fuse of a new war. [applause]

A rifle is an invariable comrade-in-arms of a revolutionary. Peace, today's happy life, and a brilliant tomorrow lie on the bayonet we are holding. Loving rifles and defending the socialist fatherland with rifles is the sacred duty of our people.

Upholding the party's policy of arming all the people and turning the whole country into a fortress, all party members and the working people should follow the indomitable mettle displayed by the defenders of the (Sohwangchon) guerrilla base during the anti- Japanese revolutionary struggle, and should thus push ahead with national defense and socialist construction alike by holding a rifle in one hand and a hammer and sickle in the other hand. [applause]

All party members and working people should always maintain a strained and mobilized posture and firmly establish the ethos of attaching importance to military affairs and sincerely learning military affairs. Thus, they should make full political, ideological, military, and material preparations so as to actively cope with any unexpected situation.

Members of the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and members of the Red Youth Guards should actively take part in combat and political training. Thus, they should be firmly prepared to independently defend their work sites, villages, and schools in an emergency.

For our people today, sincerely helping [wonho] the People's Army is precisely the road of being loyal to the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il's intent. For the People's Army, loving the people and helping them becomes precisely a rewarding work to follow the comrade supreme commander's noble intent.

All the people and officers and men of the People's Army should more vigorously wage the movement of our village and our outpost so that the traditional laudable custom of unity between the army and the people is brought into full bloom at a higher plane throughout the country. [applause]

We are now building socialism in the most difficult environment, and there are various difficulties and obstacles on the road ahead of our revolution. As the anti-Japanese revolutionary predecessors did in the past, we should break the difficult deadlock with the spirit of arduous march, taking a noble view of life, living today not only for today but for tomorrow and waging an unyielding fight to protect socialism while overcoming all trials and obstacles under any difficult situation.

We should glorify this meaningful year, in which the 70th anniversary of the organization of the Down-With-Imperialism Union by the fatherly leader [suryongnim] will fall, as a historic year and a year of fortune for displaying the spirit of the socialist DPRK while upholding the red flag. [applause]

All functionaries, party members, and working people should carry out their revolutionary tasks with their own strength, having faith in sure victory and that we will achieve victory without fail as long as we have respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il, the revolutionary optimism, and the revolutionary spirit of self- reliance and fortitude. By so doing, they should become genuine loyal servants and faithful pupils who thoroughly implement the party's revolutionary economic strategies and present reports of loyalty and reports of victory to the party not merely by word, but with visible work results. [applause]

Like Comrade O Chung-hup who led the anti-Japanese Seventh Regiment, all our guiding functionaries should become fighters who dedicate themselves to breaking the deadlock of socialist construction at the forefront of the revolutionary ranks of today.

Bearing deep in our hearts the sublime intent of the great leader [suryong] Comrade Kim Il-song who made every effort to accomplish the (?reunification cause) until the last moment of his life, we should stoutly struggle to hasten the reunification of the fatherland based on the three principles — independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity — upholding the



wise leadership of respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il, the lodestar of the fatherland's reunification. [applause]

No matter how the imperialists and all kinds of reactionaries of history squirm about [palbodung] trying to lower the chuche socialist banner, the red flag of our revolution, our People's Army and people, who are highly upholding General Kim Chong-il, the brilliant commander of Paektu, at the top position [choegosuwi] of defense power [kukpangayok], will by no means lower the red flag of the revolution in whatever difficulties and trials; will smash the enemies and reunify the fatherland even though we die hundreds of millions of times; and will complete the chuche revolutionary cause to the end. [applause] This is the boldness and will of the DPRK [applause]

Let us all vigorously fight for the reunification of the fatherland and the consummation of the chuche revolutionary cause, firmly united around the Great Leader [yongdoja] Kim Chong-il, chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and supreme commander of the KPA. [applause]

Hurrah for the revolutionary idea of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader [suryong] of our party and people! [applause with three cheers]

Hurrah for Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leader [yongdoja] of our party and people! [applause with three cheers]

#### **DPRK: Dialogue Describes Leader's Position, Role**

*SK1004012896 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2249 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[Dialogue between Chon Hak-chol, associate doctor and head of an office in the Academy of Social Sciences, and station reporter An Ui-hyon: "The Course We Should Traverse in the Era of Independence"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [An Ui-hyon] How are you?

For the popular masses to occupy the position as the independent master of history and to play their role as such, they should receive the leadership of the leader [suryong] of the working class.

[Chon Hak-chol] That's right.

[An] So, in this hour I would like to discuss the leader's [suryong] position in the revolutionary movement and the role he plays in the movement.

[Chon] Yes, the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: The leader [suryong] is the supreme nerve-center [choego noesu] of the working masses of people and the center of cohesion and

unity. The leader [suryong] plays a decisive role in the development of history and the revolutionary struggle of the working class.

As taught by the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il, the leader [suryong] occupies an absolute position in the revolutionary movement. This shows that the leader [suryong] is the supreme nerve-center of the working masses of people and that he is the center of cohesion and unity and the supreme leader [choego yongdoja] in the revolutionary struggle for independence. In other words, the leader [suryong] is the center of the social and political organism. He is also not only the center who analyzes and synthesizes the popular masses' independent demands and interests and integrates them into one, but is also the center who unifiedly leads the popular masses' creative activities to realize these demands and interests.

[An] I think we can explain into several parts the ground that the leader [suryong] occupies an absolute position in the revolutionary movement.

[Chon] Yes, that is true. The leader [suryong] is first of all the supreme nerve-center of the popular masses. He takes upon himself the popular masses' will and demands and integrates them into one. This is like the physiological needs taking place in many parts of a human body being reflected into the brain. In this sense, the leader [suryong] becomes the supreme representative of the popular masses' will and interests and the person in charge of them.

The leader [suryong] analyzes and sums up the popular masses' will and demands with his extraordinary wisdom. He also creates a revolutionary ideology based on these will and demands, and leads the popular masses to present revolutionary strategies and tactics with which they can realize their will and demands. The popular masses can realize their will and demands only when they act according to the ideology and line presented by the leader [suryong]. Therefore, we can say that the leader [suryong] is the supreme nerve-center of the popular masses.

[An] The leader [suryong] is also the center of cohesion and unity of the popular masses, isn't he?

[Chon] Yes, he is. All things are formed with one core as the center. Likewise, for the popular masses to firmly unite as one political and social force they should have the center of their unity. The center of this unity is precisely the leader [suryong]. This is because the popular masses' cohesion and unity are formed only based on their common objective and interests and because, accordingly, the supreme representative of



these common objective and interests is precisely the leader [suryong].

As you know, the popular masses can win victory in their revolutionary struggle only when they are firmly united around their leader [suryong]. The history lesson drawn from the Paris Commune taken place in March 1871 tells this well. At that time, the French people, including the working class in Paris, triggered the revolution and seized government. They also implemented a series of revolutionary policies. However, they failed to block reactionaries' desperate offensives and came to a tragic end after 72 days.

One example of the historic lesson of the Paris Commune is that the working class and the people failed to unite as a political force. This failure was also because there was no leader [suryong], the center of unity, in the commune.

Like this, the leader [suryong] is the supreme nerve-center of the popular masses and the center of cohesion and unity. The leader [suryong] is also the supreme leader [choego yongdoja] of the revolutionary struggle for independence.

[An] Since the popular masses' struggle for independence is complicated and difficult, I think that the popular masses' struggle for independence, as well, needs tested leadership.

[Chon] That's right. So, the guarantee for such tested leadership can only be provided by the leader [suryong] who has outstanding leadership ability as the supreme nerve-center of the popular masses and as the center of cohesion and unity. This position that the leader occupies in the revolutionary movement is an absolute position.

[An] The leader [suryong] occupies an absolute position and, at the same time, plays a decisive role in the revolutionary movement. Now, I think the problem of the leader's decisive role can be viewed from various aspects.

[Chon] You are right. The leader [suryong] first creates a revolutionary ideology which correctly reflects the popular masses' independent demands and interests and elucidates the road ahead for the popular masses. Of course, individual persons who are members of the popular masses can present their own ideologies and theories based on their own knowledge and experience. However, they are merely individual members of the popular masses. Therefore, they cannot present ideology and theory that reflect the popular masses' aspirations and demands.

[An] In other words, you mean that while their ideology and theory can provide a (?textbook) of scientific guiding ideology and enrich it, their ideology and theory themselves cannot become the guiding ideology, am I correct?

[Chon] Yes, you are correct. Thus, only a leader [suryong] with farsighted wisdom and outstanding character who represents the people can create the guiding ideology of the revolution. The leader makes the popular masses the masters of the revolution and the genuine masters of history by making them ideologically conscious and by organizing them. The degree of the popular masses' role in the revolutionary struggle depends on how outstandingly they are made conscious and organized ideologically. Awakening and organizing the popular masses in a revolutionary manner is not an easy job.

In particular, the reactionary exploiting class employs all sorts of crafty and vicious ways to prevent the popular masses from being awakened in a revolutionary manner. This difficult and complicated work can be done only by the leader [suryong].

The leader implants independent revolutionary consciousness among the popular masses, organizes party and social organizations and other revolutionary organizations, and rallies the popular masses into these organizations. Thus, he organizes them as a powerful political force.

[An] The leader [suryong] firmly grasps the popular masses' revolutionary struggle in a unified manner and leads them with his tested leadership.

[Chon] That's right. The leader [suryong] vigorously organizes and mobilizes the popular masses by presenting a correct struggle goal, slogans, strategies, and tactics. The leader establishes the unitary leadership system and has all organizations, organs, and groups move under this unitary leadership system, thereby leading the revolutionary struggle and construction to victory.

The leader of the working class also consummates to the end the cause of socialism and communism by resolving the issue of the leader's political successor.

The political successor in the revolutionary struggle and construction inherits the leader's position and role as they are. Therefore, we can say that the leader's political successor in carrying out the cause of socialism, communism, is precisely the leader [suryong].

If we fail to correctly resolve the issue of the leader's political successor in consummating the working class' revolutionary cause the revolution cannot escape frustration and vicissitudes in the revolution.



[An] Yes, this is a lesson of the international communist movement.

[Chon] That's true. The historic lesson that the ruling parties of some socialist countries have collapsed today vividly shows that it is very important to correctly elect the leader's [suryong] political successor. The working class' leader [suryong] should lead the cause of socialism, communism, to victory to the end by correctly resolving the successor issue.

Our party has brilliantly resolved the issue of inheriting the revolutionary cause by upholding the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il at the head of our party and revolution. Thus, the chuche revolutionary cause pioneered by the respected and beloved leader [suryongnim] is being brilliantly inherited by the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il and is vigorously and invariably advancing along the single road of victory even amid today's complicated situation.

[An] I agree with you. As the question of the leader's [suryong] position and role in the revolutionary movement have been most scientifically and perfectly elucidated by the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il for the first time in history, the mighty ideological and theoretical foundation, which makes it possible for the working class and the popular masses to build to the end the cause of socialism, communism, has been provided.

[Chon] You are right.

[An] Thank you.

#### **DPRK: So Yun-sok, Others Attend Events Marking New School Year**

*SK0704014796 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A new school year has begun on the threshold of the significant April holiday. [passage omitted on portion praising kim chong-il's concern for students]

On 1 April, ceremonies for opening a new school year were held at senior middle schools and primary schools throughout the country.

Present at the ceremonies held through out the country were Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] as well as responsible secretary of the North Pyongan Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the North Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Comrades Hong Song-nam and Choe Yong-nim, candidate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premiers of the Administration Council; Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee as well as responsible secretary of the Chagang Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the Chagang Provincial People's Committee; Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Comrades Kim Pok-sin, Kim Yun-hyok, Chang Chol, Kong Chin-tae, vice premiers of the Administration Council; party functionaries of the capital city and provincial regions; functionaries of the power organs, and administrative and economic organs. [passage omitted on the leaders' inspection of school lessons]

ministration Council; Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee as well as responsible secretary of the Chagang Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the Chagang Provincial People's Committee; Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Comrades Kim Pok-sin, Kim Yun-hyok, Chang Chol, Kong Chin-tae, vice premiers of the Administration Council; party functionaries of the capital city and provincial regions; functionaries of the power organs, and administrative and economic organs. [passage omitted on the leaders' inspection of school lessons]

#### **DPRK: Chang Chol Attends Performance by Visiting PRC Art Troupe**

*SK0704074996 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0722 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 7 (KCNA) — A Chinese art troupe, staying in Korea to participate in the 14th April Spring Friendship Art Festival, gave a performance here on Saturday [6 April].

Appreciating the performance were Chang Chol, vice-premier and minister of culture and art, officials concerned, working people and artistes in the city.

Ambassador Qiao Zonghuai and officials of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang saw the performance.

Put on the stage were the immortal revolutionary paean "Song of General Kim Il-song", "O the Leader's Embrace" and other Korean songs, and Chinese songs including "Eternal Friend".

Dances representing the customs and industrious labour of the Chinese people were also performed.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience.

#### **DPRK: Yang Hyong-sop Attends Meeting To Award Red Flag on School**

*SK0704014696 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1100 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A meeting to award the Threefold Honorary Red Flag to the Pyongyang Cheil Senior Middle School was held at the Central Hall of Youth on 4 April.

Present at the meeting were Comrade Yang Hyong-sop; functionaries concerned; functionaries, faculty members, and students of the Pyongyang Cheil Senior Middle School and other senior middle schools in Pyongyang. [passage omitted on the contents of the speeches delivered at the meeting]



**DPRK: 'Advanced Medical Service System'  
Reviewed**

*SK0504095296 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0908 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA) — Health workers of Korea are intensifying their medical services for inhabitants in sections under their charge on the occasion of the Day of Public Health (April 5).

The complete and universal free medical services and the prophylactic line, enforced in the country, are being carried into practice under the section-doctor system, an advanced medical service system.

By this system each doctor is to undertake the preventive treatment and medical service for inhabitants in a certain section, with responsibility for their health.

Under the system all the people have their own doctors and doctors conduct their service activities, for more than half the duty hours, at houses and workplaces of inhabitants.

Doctors are conducting in sections under their charge such services as hygienic propaganda, registration and inoculation of those to be vaccinated, regular check-up and consultation, experimental examination and treatment for the registered patients, so as to more effectively provide inhabitants with the benefit of public health by the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the state.

Many medical service centres have been built in different parts of the country and ranks of health workers increased in number radically, thanks to the WPK's popular health policy, an embodiment of the great man-centred chuche idea.

People's hospitals were built in every part of the country and specialized service networks established.

A large number of health workers are trained at medical universities and colleges in provinces and scores of educational centres every year and dispatched to all the inhabited places, towns and the countryside, factories, fishing villages, forestry villages and even to solitary islets.

**DPRK: Yi Chong-ok, Other Party, Government  
Cadres Plant Trees**

*SK0704020596 Pyongyang Korean Central  
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] On the occasion of Arbor Day, senior party and government officials planted trees around the Kumsusan Memorial Palace and on Mangyong Hill on 5 April.

Comrade Yi Chong-ok, Vice President Kim Pyong-sik, Comrade Kim Yong-nam, Comrade Kye ung-tae, Comrade Han Song-yong, Comrade Choe Tae-pok, Comrade Hong Song-nam, Comrade Choe Yong-nim, Comrade Hong Sok-hyong, Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, Comrade Kim Chung-nin, Comrade Kim Pok-sin, Comrade Chang Chol, Comrade Yun Ki-pok, Comrade Chon Mun-sop; and Mr. Yun I-yong participating in the tree planting.

Party and government cadres planted pine-nut trees on the time-honored sacred places of the revolution, together with Pyongyang working people, youths, and students. [passage omitted on Kim Il-song's guidance over tree-planting work]

**DPRK: Kim Chung-nin Attends Opening of  
Mangyongdae Sports Contest**

*SK0504080396 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0407 GMT 5 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA) — The Mangyongdae Prize Sports Contest opened here on Thursday [4 April] with due ceremony on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Participating in the contest in Pyongyang and local areas will be many sportsmen from different teams, who are to compete in 40 odd events such as soccer, track and field, boxing, wrestling and weightlifting.

Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned and sportsmen were present at the ceremony.

It was stressed there that the great leader President Kim Il-song, attaching deep attention to the development of the nation's physical culture and sports, put forward the most correct sports policies and brought about a heyday of chuche-based sports.

It was also recalled that the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has taken warm care of and given matchless strength and wisdom to sportsmen and wisely led the work to raise the nation's sports technique to the world's level.

**DPRK: Power Industry Ministry Official  
Interviewed on Production**

*SK0904045396 Pyongyang Korean Central  
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 2 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Party members and working class of the Power Industry Ministry have scored gains in power generation, with the burning desire to glorify the significant month of April with a high record of



power generation, and to prosper our chuche-based fatherland of socialism, which is vigorously advancing under the wise leadership of the great leader [widaehan yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il and under the red flag of revolution. Reporter Kim Sung-kon of the Central Broadcasting interviewed Comrade Kim Kihyok, director of the Power Industry Ministry:

[Begin Kim recording] Bearing in mind the burning desire to glorify the significant month of April with proud labor achievements, all party members and working class of the Power Industry Ministry have effected great upsurges in power generation. In our ministry, functionaries work with the working masses and encourage them by setting actual examples in carrying out the production organization plan. The Hochongang Power Plant, Changjingang Power Plant, and Pujongang Power Plant are normalizing power generation at a high level by fulfilling daily power generation plans at over 101 percent, with the same spirit that enabled them to overfulfill the monthly generation targets in March.

Such an achievement is also seen at the Kanggye Chongnyon Power Plant. Party members and working class here are well aware of the importance of their duties and overfulfill their power generation plan daily by ensuring that the power generation equipment is in full operation at full capacity. In addition, party members and working class of the Sunchon Thermal Power Plant, Changjagang Power Plant, and many other plants continue to mark high power generation records by properly maintaining, strengthening, and efficiently utilizing the power generation equipment, in order to satisfactorily meet the increasing energy demand from all sectors of the people's economy and people's living.

In the future, too, all the functionaries will work closely with the production masses in accordance with their high enthusiasm and increase power generation with them, so as to welcome the significant April festival with a high power generation record, and further prosper our fatherland of socialism that advances under the leadership of respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il [kyongachanun kimjongil tongji] and under the red flag. [end recording]

#### **DPRK: Students, Graduates Volunteering To Enter KPA**

*SK1004104196 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
1002 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — Young people of Korea are actively volunteering to join the Korean People's Army (KPA).

Students of Kim Il-song University, Yi Su-pok University and Cho Kun-sil College of Electronics and Au-

tomation and graduates of the Kim Kwang-chol and Yim Hyong-sam Senior Middle Schools met to volunteer for service in the KPA.

At the meetings they expressed their resolve to creditably defend the security of the country and gains of the revolution, with rifles in their hands instead of pens.

Speakers noted it has been made clear that the South Korean puppets intend to conduct a real war and only the declaration of war remains to be done. The present serious situation makes the minds of youths and students, who have grown under the Workers' Party of Korea and experienced how precious the country is, seethe with the surging hatred for the enemy and stamina to annihilate it, they added.

And they manifested their ardent desire to serve in the KPA.

#### **DPRK: MINJU CHOSON Commemorates Anniversary of Korean University**

*SK1004042296 Pyongyang KCNA in English  
0325 GMT 10 Apr 96*

["40th Anniversary of Korean University" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA) — MINJU CHOSON today observes the 40th anniversary of the foundation of Korean University, a reliable educational institution of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and a seat of science of Korean youths and students in Japan.

The university was founded on April 10, 1956 under the warm loving care and solicitude of the great leader President Kim Il-song to open a broad avenue of learning for the children of compatriots and give them national pride, hope and advanced scientific knowledge.

The paper in a signed article says:

With the foundation of Korean University, Chongnyon has acquired a well-organized educational system from primary schools to university and had a national cadre training centre capable of bringing up the young people to be excellent patriots by further developing national education.

Under the warm embrace of the homeland and the guidance of Chongnyon after the foundation, the university has brought up many students to be heirs who will take the future of the Koreans' movement in Japan on their shoulders and competent officials with advanced science and technology.

Many graduates of the university are conducting patriotic activities at organs of Chongnyon at all levels, its



affiliated organizations, enterprises and educational institutions.

As an authoritative overseas university of the DPRK, it is conducting brisk external activities, firmly defending the homeland and actively contributing to its socialist construction.

Indeed, the university is displaying its name at home and abroad as a pride of the nation and a symbol of national education of Chongnyon.

The proud course covered by the university and the achievements made by its teachers and students are associated with the wise guidance and warm solicitude of the great leaders President Kim Il-sung and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

**DPRK: 50th Anniversary of Founding of Children's Union Viewed**

SK0504092796 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*  
0902 GMT 5 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, April 5 (KCNA) — June 6 this year marks the 50th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union [KCU].

A meeting of the Children's Union of the Changdok School in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang for celebrating the day in the best way was held on Thursday [4 April].

The reporter and speakers at the meeting voiced their determination to prepare themselves well to be creditable successors to the revolutionary cause of chuche with ample knowledge, sound morality and strong body, by holding in higher esteem the respected Generalissimo Kim Il-sung for all ages and upholding the leadership of the respected General Kim Chong-il with loyalty.

The meeting issued an appeal to KCU organizations and their members throughout the country.

The appeal calls for making the 50th KCU anniversary a significant holiday powerfully demonstrating the burning minds and steadfast will of the 3 million KCU members, who are preparing themselves always for the great General Kim Chong-il.

Pointing out that the revolutionary idea of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-sung is a torchlight of struggle indicating the road ahead of them both today and tomorrow as well as an eternal guideline in the work of the Children's Union, the appeal calls for further glorifying his brilliant revolutionary achievements through generations.

It calls on all KCU members to become 3 million rifles and bombs and 6 million handgrenades in defending General Kim Chong-il at the cost of lives and in de-

fending the socialist motherland, as the heroic children did during the anti-Japanese struggle and the children's guard members did during the wartime, and to possess ample knowledge, sound morality and strong body.

"KCU organizations and their members throughout the country should firmly build up all sub-branches into active organizations of general Kim Chong-il and carry on socio-political activities and do-good-things movement more powerfully so as to prepare themselves to be young revolutionaries and patriots," the appeal said.

**South Korea**

**ROK: UN Ambassador Presents DPRK's Incursion Issue to UNSC**

SK1004002296 *Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network*  
in Korean 2200 GMT 9 Apr 96

[Report by correspondent Yi Kwang-chul from UN Headquarters]

[FBIS Translated Text] North Korea's declaration on renouncing of the Korean Armistice Agreement and the show of force in the Panmunjom Joint Security Area has been presented to the UN Security Council [UNSC] as an official agenda item today.

The UNSC today listened to a presentation of the problem by Pak Su-kil, the ROK's Ambassador to the UN, on North Korea's deployment of armed troops in Panmunjom and renouncement of the Armistice Agreement, and agreed to continue to discuss this issue.

Ambassador Pak said that this means the UNSC will formulate specific measures on North Korea based on the discussion. The UNSC may choose to adopt such specific measures as a resolution on North Korea, a presidential statement, or a presidential letter.

He said that whether the UNSC formulates such measures on North Korea depends on the attitude North Korea takes.

**ROK: UNSC To Add Korea Issue to 'Unofficial Meeting' Agenda**

SK1004052896 *Seoul YONHAP in English*  
0504 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) will place the recent mounting tensions on the Korean peninsula on the agenda at an unofficial meeting Thursday [11 April] to decide whether to take the issue to an official UNSC meeting for a resolution, chairman's statement or a chairman's press release, Foreign Ministry Spokesman So Tae-won said Wednesday.



Virtually all of the ambassadors of the 15 UNSC member states recognized the mounting tensions on the Korean peninsula and agreed with the proposal made by South Korean Ambassador Pak Su-kil Tuesday to discuss the Korean issue at the UNSC, according to So.

Pak has been in contact with ambassadors of the 14 UNSC delegates for days trying to explain recent developments on the Korean peninsula caused by armed North Korean troops in the joint Demilitarized Zone's Joint Security Area (JSA) after renouncing its Korean armistice treaty obligations.

Another official said that South Korea has been in close contact with its UNSC allies to determine the level at which the council will react to the North's recent provocations.

"We will decide whether a resolution, chairman's statement or chairman's press release is appropriate in accordance with future developments," he said.

The official added that the provocative North Korean activities took place within the boundaries of their own DMZ area, hinting that the UNSC will be limited in what it can do since the North did not violate the southern side of the DMZ.

He also said that the United Nations Command nearly finished writing a special report which will be presented to UNSC President Juan Somavia.

#### **ROK Keeping 'Contact' With UNSC 'Allies' on DPRK Issue**

*SK1004052896 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0504 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) will place the recent mounting tensions on the Korean peninsula on the agenda at an unofficial meeting Thursday to decide whether to take the issue to an official UNSC meeting for a resolution, chairman's statement or a chairman's press release, Foreign Ministry Spokesman So Tae-won said Wednesday.

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#### **ROK: UNSC Begins Deliberating DPRK's 'Armed Incursions'**

*SK1004012696 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0117 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations, April 9 (YONHAP) — The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) began discussing North Korea's renouncement last week of obligations specified by the 1953 Korean Armistice Agreement and the subsequent armed incursions into the Joint Security Area at Panmunjom Truce Village, as part of an emergency agenda adopted Tuesday afternoon.

The proposal and adoption of the Panmunjom issue as an agenda item followed close discussions among ambassadors from major Security Council member countries.

They included South Korean Amb. Pak Su-kil, Amb. Juan Somavia of Chile, who chairs the UNSC, and U.S. Amb. Madeleine Albright.

Depending on the outcome of its discussions, the Security Council is reportedly expected to take one of four possible actions: Issuance of a resolution against North Korea, a chairman's statement, a chairman's letter, or a press statement.

The UN envoys of major Security Council member nations basically agreed that the Security Council should take some action against the recent North Korean provocations in the demilitarized zone (DMZ) separating South and North Korea, according to diplomatic sources.

Amb. Pak briefed the envoys about the heightened tensions on the Korean peninsula caused by the North's flagrant violations of the Armistice Agreement and stressed a need for the Security Council to take action.



A considerable number of them expressed wholehearted sympathy and support for South Korea's stance, the mission said.

**ROK: Plan To Send Protest to DPRK Through UNC Noted**

*SK0904221596 Seoul YONHAP in English  
1037 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP) — The United Nations Command (UNC) in Korea is studying a plan to send a message of protest to North Korea or issue a protest statement under the name of UNC Commander Gen. Gary Luck over the North's recent violation of the Military Armistice agreement, a source said Tuesday.

The source close to the command said the UNC thinks seriously of the recent series of North Korean acts, which it judges constitute a flagrant breach of the armistice agreement.

He said that last Saturday morning the UNC tried to send through Panmunjom duty officers a protest telephone message to the North regarding North Korean troops' foray into the Panmunjom area.

But, the North Koreans refused to accept the telephone message, the source said.

Meanwhile, a UNC officer said no plan is being studied to file a protest with North Korea under Gen. Luck's name.

**ROK: DPRK Diplomat at UN Comments on Panmunjom Incident**

*SK1004083796 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN  
in Korean 10 Apr 96 p 1*

[By Chong Yon-chu in Washington]

[FBIS Translated Text] A diplomat of the North Korean mission to the United Nations said on 8 April that the recent Panmunjom incident was "North Korea's defensive measure against the continuous remarks about the collapse of North Korea and the ceaseless ROK-U.S. joint military exercises and arms buildup."

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the diplomat said: "Such threats against North Korea are signs seen only on the eve of war. Our self-defensive measure was inevitable."

When the diplomat was reminded about foreign news reports that North Korea's action may affect South Korea's general election, he said: "South Korea's general election is none of our business. Considering the current urgent situation, stabilizing peace on the Korean peninsula is more important than the election."

He added: "With a view to achieving the peace agreement, a meeting of the military committee, which was formed according to the basic agreement between the North and South, may be held between North and South Korea, but there are issues to be resolved between the North and South, and issues to be resolved between the DPRK (North Korea) and the United States."

**ROK: DPRK Asks Japan for Rice, Alleges ROK DMZ Violations**

*SK1004103096 Seoul YONHAP in English  
1021 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 10 (YONHAP) — A visiting North Korean delegation on Wednesday asked Japan to provide more rice to their famine-stricken country.

A Workers' Party goodwill delegation made the request during talks with a group of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) officials at the LDP headquarters.

The North Korean team was led by Kang Chong-hun, a sub-division chief of the Workers' Party Central Committee, and the Japanese officials by Hiromu Nonaka, acting LDP secretary-general.

Nonaka said the issue of any additional rice delivery is a matter to be discussed through an official governmental channel while Yoichi Tani of the Japan-North Korea parliamentarians union said his union could support governmental rice talks if they were able to grasp the true picture of the North's food situation.

The North Korean mission handed to Japan a personal message from Kim Yong-sun, a Workers' Party secretary.

Japan has already provided 500,000 tons of rice to North Korea on two occasions, last June and October. The total included 150,000 tons given for free.

Meanwhile, in response to the concern expressed by the Japanese team about the recent forays by North Korean troops into the Panmunjom area, Kang asserted "It is not that North Korea had unilaterally made the forays," maintaining that (South Korea), too, has been committing violations.

**ROK To 'Ignore' DPRK Request To Resume Rice Talks**

*SK1004083596 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0748 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — South Korea said Wednesday that it will ignore North Korea's offer to hold the fourth round of inter-Korean rice talks in Beijing.



Pyongyang made the offer last Friday only "for propaganda's sake," having turned down conditions proposed by Seoul of holding a government-level meeting on the Korean Peninsula and not in a foreign country, a ranking official said.

The North has also not stopped its slanderous broadcasts against the South for not resuming the rice talks, he added.

Therefore, because North Korea's motive behind the proposal rouses suspicion, Seoul will ignore it, he declared.

Jon Kum-chol, the North's chief delegate to the Beijing rice talks, sent his South Korean counterpart, Yi Sok-chae, a fax March 31 proposing to resume the rice talks in Beijing, and he sent the message to Yi again last Friday.

#### **ROK: Use of 'International Pressure' Against DPRK Urged**

SK1004044296 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English  
10 Apr 96 p 6

[Editorial: "Countersteps Against NK"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There is a broad consensus that the current North Korean military moves inside the Joint Security Area (JSA) are a diplomatic offensive aimed mainly at the United States to pressure Washington to conclude a peace treaty with it. But the main concern is that this tactic could lead to a limited or all out conflict.

Among various reactions to the North's intentional violations of the 1953 Armistice Agreement, U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry denounced them as "provocative diplomatic action." Other countries, including Japan and Russia, voiced concern over the North Korean maneuvers of sending heavily armed troops into the buffer zone and demanded Pyongyang exercise restraint.

To cope with the North Korean incursions, so far limited to the northern portion of the DMZ, the South, as a matter of course, has stepped up its vigilance along the entire 250-kilometer land border and its air and sea extensions. At the same time, the Seoul government has manifested its will to sternly deal with any North Korean military provocations.

Behind the North Korean military stratagem, complicated reasons are cited by experts in and outside the government. Some see the North Korean attempt as a ploy to divert the people's attention from its domestic problems, including a severe food shortage, while others believe it is a scheme to strengthen its bargaining position ahead of the April 19-20 Berlin talks with

Washington on the North's development of long-range missiles and arms shipments to the Middle East.

Under these circumstances, the Seoul government is required to step up its diplomatic efforts especially toward the U.S., China, Russia and Japan as well as the United Nations. In particular, Seoul could take advantage of the April 16 summit between Presidents Kim Yong-sam and Bill Clinton which will be followed by a series of summits among the major powers around the Korean peninsula.

There is little denying that the best way to discourage Pyongyang's threat of war is to put international pressure on the communists in the North and demonstrate an unequivocal will to safeguard peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. This is also the way of teaching Pyongyang a lesson that any bellicose, irrational act of brinkmanship will never work in the international stage.

As for Seoul, what is most urgent is to achieve a total unity among the public and make level-best preparations for any contingency. The government needs to manage the current crisis on the basis of a correct assessment of the situation. The general public should be provided with correct and up-to-date information and due warning as well on North Korean military moves.

Above all, both the ruling and opposition camps should refrain from trying to exploit the tense situation for their election campaigns. Regrettably, however, there are signs the rival parties are exaggerating or downplaying the significance of the recent border developments according to their political agenda. At this juncture, the Kim Yong-sam government must keep a firm position, militarily and diplomatically so that the people can follow the government's lead with confidence.

Demonstration of the strength of the military alliance between Korea and the United States has always been the most effective answer to heightened tension on this peninsula caused by North Korean provocations. Stepped-up surveillance and intelligence-gathering with the possible use of an AWACS aircraft may suffice for the time being. The U.S. may position aircraft carrier battle groups in waters off the peninsula as in the recent Taiwan Straits crisis to get the message across to the North Koreans but apparently Washington does not feel the need for such drastic action at the moment.

Diplomatically, the government is required to reaffirm or rearrange its inter-Korean policy in order to cope with the changing situation consistently but flexibly. If necessary, a comprehensive review could be made on the conventional peace formula of two (South and North Korea) plus two or four (U.S., China, Russia and Japan). But in any case, North Korea's attempt to exclude Seoul from the peace talks must be rejected.



**ROK Daily Previews Upcoming Summit With U.S.**

*SK1004100896 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean  
10 Apr 96 p 3*

[Editorial: "We Look Forward to the ROK-U.S. Summit"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The ROK-U.S. summit, which will be held in Cheju during U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to the ROK on 16 April, is of great significance because it is being held when tension on the Korean peninsula has been heightened following North Korea's declaration that it will no longer recognize the DMZ and its consecutive deployment of armed troops in the Joint Security Area (JSA) in Panmunjom. An unstable situation has prevailed in North Korea ever since Kim Il-song's death in July 1994.

President Clinton's visit to the ROK was decided before North Korea's provocations, including its abrogation of its duties in the DMZ. This is now the fifth time that President Clinton has met with ROK President Kim Yong-sam. This shows how highly the United States values cooperation between the two countries in maintaining peace on the Korean peninsula. Besides, the more than doubling the length President Clinton's stay in the ROK is likely intended so that the heads of the two countries can extensively and sufficiently exchange their views on the recent, sudden North Korean provocations.

The heads of the two countries will, first of all, carefully analyze the situation on the Korean peninsula and in East Asia. While doing so, comments by spokesmen of the U.S. Administration and by the press — which have stated that although armed North Korean troops were brought into the JSA in Panmunjom in succession, there is no indication of hostilities breaking out in Korea — should be reviewed in a bid to decide on what these remarks are based. In doing this, it is desirable to have a common precise perception of the situation surrounding the Korean peninsula.

Next, we hope that positive countermeasures will be worked out to cope with North Korea's undisguised, continuous violations of the Armistice Agreement and provocations. The expression of firm ROK and U.S. resolution to immediately counter on the spot any armed attack, such as the crossing of the Military Demarcation Line, is also hoped for. We also express the hope that the summit will discuss the issue of bringing the case of provocations, which were already committed by North Korea, before the UN Security Council. By reconfirming the U.S. commitment to the defense of the ROK, North Korea's war adventurism, which may be triggered by its miscalculation, should be prevented.

It is hoped that both the ROK and the United States will show firmness in the cooperative system between the two countries so North Korea can renounce its idea that it can gain something from direct negotiations with the United States at the exclusion of the ROK. On the other hand, efforts should be made to encourage North Korea to realize that without progress in North-South relations through dialogue, neither North Korea-U.S. negotiations for the establishment of diplomatic relations nor missile talks will be feasible.

It is now time to prudently review the issue of replacing the armistice system, which North Korea has unilaterally destroyed, by reviewing effective plans for consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula from a long-range standpoint.

We hope that the upcoming Cheju summit talks will be the occasion for demonstrating a firm ROK-U.S. cooperative system and will contribute to stability on the Korean peninsula, as well as in East Asia, by deterring North Korean provocations.

**ROK: DPRK To 'Push' Peace Proposal at MIA Talks With U.S.**

*SK1004095996 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN  
in Korean 10 Apr 96 p 1*

[Report by correspondent Chong Yon-chu from Washington]

[FBIS Translated Text] At a time when tensions between South and North Korea have been aggravated due to the actions taken by North Korea to paralyze the Armistice Agreement, and following their agreement to hold negotiations on the missile issue in Berlin on 19 April, North Korea and the United States have agreed to hold a second round of talks in New York around 22 April on repatriating the remains of U.S. soldiers missing in action (MIA) from the Korean war.

It is expected that during the direct contact with the United States, North Korea will strongly push the issue of signing a peace agreement, since the issue has become more acute following the recent incidents in Panmunjom.

A diplomatic source well-versed in North Korea-U.S. relations said on 8 April: "After long discussions on resuming talks on the MIA issue, as well as on the date and agenda, North Korea and the United States have agreed to resume the talks in New York around 22 April." The source then predicted: "The North Korean and U.S. delegations will likely be the same as those at the first round of negotiations held in Hawaii in early January." Kim Pyong-hong, director of the Disarmament and Peace Institute, led the North Korean delegation,



and (James Weld), deputy assistant secretary of defense for POW and MIA affairs, led the U.S. delegation to the Hawaii talks.

At the Hawaii talks, North Korea demanded \$4 million in expenses for the search and repatriation of remains of U.S. soldiers in 1993 and 1994, while the United States proposed sending \$1 million to North Korea. The two sides have reportedly almost agreed to \$2 million in compensation.

During the first round of negotiations in Hawaii, the United States strongly suggested the establishment of a joint survey team to search for the remains of U.S. soldiers, but North Korea took the position that a joint search was impossible under the Armistice Agreement, but would be possible when a peace agreement is signed.

#### **ROK: DPRK To Get 'Opportunity To Determine' U.S.-ROK Strength**

*SK1004031096 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0302 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — South Korea and the United States agreed Wednesday to give North Korea the opportunity to determine the strength of South Korea-U.S. joint defense capabilities so they do not make an "erroneous judgement."

The agreement was reached at a breakfast meeting between Foreign Minister Kong No-myong, Defense Minister Yi Yang-ho, U.S. Ambassador to Seoul James Laney and U.S. Forces in Korea (USFK) Commander Gary Luck, according to a Foreign Ministry official.

Although such meetings are commonly called "two-plus-two," it was unable to come up with one-by-one steps to implement the agreement, the official said, declining to comment on the possibility of resuming the large-scale annual joint military exercise Team Spirit, which has been suspended for years to avoid provoking the North.

The two sides feared over the possibility that North Korea will misjudge South Korea's calm and practical response to the recent provocations made by the North in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

Kong and three other participants also reaffirmed that South Korea and the United States will retaliate swiftly and firmly against any armed provocations by the North.

The two sides also agreed that there are indications that the North's recent provocations were meticulously calculated rather than accidental.

They expressed concern, however, about the possibility that repeated intrusions into the Joint Security Area (JSA) by the North's armed troops could aggravate

the situation on the Korean peninsula whether they are intended to or not.

South Korea and the United States will continue to make an effort to respect the Korean armistice treaty, although Pyongyang is again trying to abandon their obligations under the armistice treaty, in hopes of replacing the armistice which has maintained peace and stability on the Korean peninsula for the past four decades.

Some of those who attended the meeting noted that China supported Seoul and Washington's efforts to honor the armistice at a recent unofficial United Nations Security Council meeting in New York, according to the official.

The "2+2" meeting also discussed preparations for U.S. President Bill Clinton's scheduled visit to Cheju Island Tuesday.

Laney and Luck will fly to the southern resort island over the weekend to brief U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry on recent Korean peninsula developments. Perry will fly to Cheju Island Monday, one day before Clinton's visit.

#### **ROK Air Force Head To Meet U.S. Pacific Counterpart 12 Apr**

*SK1004044196 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0437 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — South Korean Air Force Chief of Staff Yi Kwang-hak will meet with the commander of the U.S. Air Force in the Pacific region Gen. John Lorber, Friday to discuss security concerns on the Korean peninsula and a joint defensive posture between Seoul and Washington, the Air Force announced Wednesday.

Lorber is due to arrive in Seoul Thursday and will be accompanied by Gen. Ronald Iverson, commander of both the Seventh U.S. Air Force in Korea and the air component of the Republic of Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command, when he meets with Yi at Air Force headquarters.

Lorber's visit is part of scheduled tour of the U.S. forces throughout the Pacific. The fact that it coincides with heightened tension on the Korean peninsula, however, has drawn keen interest.

#### **ROK: U.S. Help Sought in Evacuating Koreans From Liberia**

*SK1004060196 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0452 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — South Korea is asking the United States to help evacuate



South Koreans in Liberia amid renewed conflict there between government and rebel forces, Foreign Ministry spokesman So Tae-won said Wednesday.

A curfew has been imposed and airports and seaports have all been shut down, So said, adding that international relief organizations in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, are reporting that over 600 people, including Lebanese diplomats and scores of other foreigners, are being held hostage by rebel troops.

Seoul has no diplomatic mission in the West African country, as its ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire Pae Sang-kil concurrently assumes the duties of South Korean envoy to Liberia.

A total of 21 South Koreans, comprised of mechanics, photographers, fishermen and businessmen, are currently in Liberia, So said, but none of them have been reported harmed as a result of the ongoing internal conflict there.

**ROK: U.S. Reportedly Replaces Japan as Largest Import Source**

*SK1004030096 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0243 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — The United States replaced Japan as South Korea's largest importing source during the first quarter of this year, the first time since 1983, the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) said Wednesday.

In the cited period, imports from the United States reached 7.3 billion U.S. dollars, compared with 6.2 billion dollars in imports from Japan.

Reflecting the rise in American imports, South Korea sustained a worsening trade deficit with the United States during the first three months, amounting to 2.4 billion dollars or nearly 50 percent more from the same period a year earlier.

South Korea narrowed its trade deficit with Japan by 300 million dollars during the first quarter from the year before, and also improved its trade balance by reducing the overall first-quarter trade deficit 12 percent from the same period in the previous year.

The trade deficit with the United States was mainly attributed to increasing imports of semiconductors, aircraft and petroleum products from the country and sluggish South Korean exports of automobiles, apparel and electronic home appliances to the United States, according to the association.

Semiconductor imports from the United States during the first two months reached 700 million dollars, up 51 percent from a year earlier, aircraft rose 61 percent to

300 million dollars, and petroleum product jumped 25 percent to 200 million dollars.

American meat imports during the January-February period reached 98 million dollars, up 90 percent from a year earlier, reflecting persistent U.S. pressure to open up the Korean market. Cigarette imports came to 33 million dollars, up 81 percent, automobile imports 27 million dollars, up 41 percent, and software imports 200 million dollars, up 30 percent.

South Korea shipped 1.7 billion dollars worth of semiconductor chips to America during the first two months, up 103 percent from the same period a year before, and computers rose 36 percent to 43 million dollars. Car exports, however, inched up only 2 percent to 300 million dollars, and apparel was down 13 percent to 200 million dollars.

**ROK: Delegation To Attend 4-Day 'Korea-UK' Forum**

*SK1004045996 Seoul YONHAP in English  
0441 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — Political, economic and social leaders from South Korea and the United Kingdom will gather in London April 18 on enhancing mutual understanding of each nation's culture, politics and economy, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

The four-day "Korea-U.K. Forum for the Future," to be held at Warren House, intends to come up with a basis for dialogue between leaders of the two countries, the spokesman said.

The event has been held alternately in Seoul and London annually since 1993.

President Kang Yong-hun of the Korean National Red Cross will lead a 20-member delegation to the forum, while the British delegation, consisting of over 30 persons, will be represented by parliamentary member Richard Needham.

**ROK: Japanese Warships To Visit for First Time Since WWII**

*SK0904221896 Seoul YONHAP in English  
1041 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 9 (YONHAP) — Two Japanese war vessels are expected to make a call at Pusan in September this year on a leg of their annual overseas training cruise, the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force reported Tuesday.

It will be the first port call at South Korea after the end of World War II in 1945.



A South Korean naval frigate called at the Tokyo Harbor in 1994, and the upcoming call by the two Japanese vessels will take the form of a return for the frigate's visit.

About 160 junior maritime force officers fresh from a officer candidates school will be aboard the two participating vessels, training ship Kashimawa and escort vessel Sawayuki.

The vessels are set to sail into Pusan on Sept. 2 following a tour of Thailand, Singapore, Australia and six other southeast Asian countries.

"There will be no problem in the ships' call at Pusan because it will be a goodwill visit," Kazuya Natsukawa, chief of staff of the Maritime Force, said.

#### **ROK: 'Shoot-To-Kill' Order by Army Chief of Staff Decried**

*SK1004094696 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 10 Apr 96 p 3*

[Article by Kim Song-kol from the "Fluoroscope" column: "The Indiscreet Instruction of the Army Chief of General Staff"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On the evening of 8 April, the ROK Army distributed a press release to the Press Corps Room at the Defense Ministry. The press release concerned the instructions to be given by Yun Yong-nam, Army chief of general staff, at the next day's meeting with field commanding officers and major Army staff. The press release stated: "Shoot and kill all enemies who take one step south of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL]."

The reporters who received the press release were speechless and nervous. It was unusual to distribute in advance a press release on the Army chief of general staff's remarks, and the contents were so strong.

According to the UN Command rules of engagement, in the event that North Korean soldiers cross the MDL, the South Korean Army should first send a warning, and if the MDL violators do not respond to the warning or run away, then South Korea can start firing. This is stipulated in the Armistice Agreement to prevent accidental conflict in the DMZ.

Therefore, Army Chief of the General Staff Yun's instruction had the potential of violating the UN Command's rules of engagement and the Armistice Agreement, and might have caused the international community to name the ROK a "violation of the agreement." It was also an extremely dangerous instruction that might have caused an accident to become an all-out or local war.

When some local morning newspapers and evening radio broadcasts reported on Yun's instruction, a high-ranking Defense Ministry official rushed into the press corps room around midnight and asked the reporters to change the phrase "shoot-to-kill all" into "immediate step according to the rules of engagement," asking them to kill the report.

On 7 and 8 April, Chief of the General Staff Yun visited guard posts and wire fence units in the DMZ to encourage the officers and men. His visit, strictly speaking, was a stretch of the authority of the chief of general staff, who is in charge of personnel, logistics, and training. Visiting front units is the responsibility of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who has operational control.

Yun's unexpected actions were a problem inside the Army, but the problem was not properly raised. Can we say it was fortunate that the instructions were a mistake caused by the heightening tension?

#### **ROK: Funeral of Student Demonstrator No Draws 3,000 Mourners**

*SK1004022596 Seoul YONHAP in English 0208 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — Approximately 3,000 students, university staff, and members of dissident groups attended No Su-sok's funeral at Yonsei University Wednesday, paying their last respects to the student demonstrator who died while running from riot police.

The funeral procession left for the university, where No was studying law, at 9:30 AM [0030 GMT] and passed through Ahyon-tong, Sosomun, City Hall, Ulchiro 1-ka, Chonggak, Pagoda Park, and finally to Chongmyo (the royal ancestors shrine), where a memorial service was scheduled to be held at noon.

Traffic in those areas was brought to a standstill as the procession made its way through the city.

Students from colleges affiliated with Hanchongnyon, or the Korea Federation of University Councils, staged a joint class boycott, with some holding separate memorial services at their respective campuses.

A total of 88 riot police units were deployed to Yonsei University and the areas the funeral procession was scheduled to pass through, in preparation for demonstrations.



**ROK: Six ULD Leaders Accused of Taking Election Bribes**

*SK1004055796 Seoul YONHAP in English*  
*0449 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP) — A parliamentary candidate of the minor opposition United Liberal Democrats (ULD) allegedly gave a total of 90 million won to four incumbent and two former ULD lawmakers in return for his nomination, the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office said Wednesday.

Kim Yong-tae, who has been given the 16th slot in the ULD's list of candidates under the proportional representation system, allegedly handed money to Reps. Cho Il-hyon, Pak Kyu-sik, Cho Pu-yong and Yi Kung-kyu and former lawmakers Chong Sok-mo and Kim Yong-tae.

The money-for-nomination' [quotations as received] scandal was reportedly uncovered through an interrogation Tuesday afternoon of a man who made the allegation in a tape recording, which ULD Vice President Yi Pil-son had earlier submitted to prosecutors.

Prosecutors plan to question the six alleged bribe takers after the general elections are over, and said that the six will be indicted for violation of the political fund law if it is confirmed that they received the money in return for Kim's nomination.

**ROK: Democratic Party Candidate Yi Su-in Discusses Politics**

*SK1004025796 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Apr 96 pp 2, 4*

[Report by staff reporter Choe Sung-chol]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yi Su-in, a campaign manager of the Democratic Party (DP), has been the talk of the town since he joined the minor opposition group late last month to become a candidate for uncontested parliamentary seats.

His affiliation with the DP drew public attention not only because the party he joined was a small one that wields little political influence, but also because he was a brother of incumbent Prime Minister Yi Su-song.

Yi, a former reformist politics professor, said he joined the DP because its party line is in accord with his views that call for an end to regionalism-stricken politics dominated by the three Kims, President Kim Yong-sam and two opposition leaders Kim Tae-chung and Kim Chong-pil.

"I joined the party to be a help to the reconstruction of the politics ruled by these three elders," Yi told The

Korea Herald. "Thursday's general elections will mark a turning point in remolding Korean politics."

He said he did not have many disagreements with his brother because his affiliation with the party was based on his own political beliefs and his elder brother respects his conviction.

Originally hailing from Taegu, a region which has traditionally supported the ruling camp, Yi is not a new face in political circles. In late 1990, he was handpicked to run as a candidate by opposition leader Kim Tae-chung who was trying to show his efforts to make peace between his hometown and rival regions.

Terming Kim Tae-chung's National Congress for New Politics (NCNP) a private organization rather than a political party, he said he did not choose Kim's party this time because it is an organization that exists only for the sake of one boss, Kim Tae-chung, which he said was not in line with his political aims.

Contrary to Kim's claims, Yi said the NCNP is not a victim of regionalism but a beneficiary of it because it has gained its political clout by taking advantage of regional sentiment.

Unlike other parties led by the three Kims, the DP is not politically based in a certain region. Ironically, however, polls show that its distinctive independence from regionalism may prevent it from winning enough voter support to be a match for any of the three Kims' parties.

Asked how to address its waning popularity, which once peaked when Rep. Pak Kye-tong unveiled secret funds amassed by former President No Tae-u, he claimed a considerable portion of the floating votes is in support of his party.

Surveys by newspapers estimate that more than 50 percent of the total eligible voters have not made up their mind yet.

He backed up his assertion by citing what he called widespread disillusionment against boss politics by the three Kims among voters.

Asked to evaluate President Kim's reform crusade so far, he said President Kim has done more harm than good to Korean politics.

"President Kim should win high praise for kicking off a reform campaign," he said. "But his reform drive lacked a blueprint and the way he pushed for his reform policies was self righteous."

He said the three parties led by the three Kims are essentially the same in that all of them function only to bring their bosses to power.



But he said voters will pass judgment on the three Kims and that the influence of the three Kims will radically decline after the elections.

He also predicted that opposition forces will defeat the ruling camp in the parliamentary elections and opposition-dominated politics will develop a politically malleable situation, which he said will likely lead to a major political reshuffle.

The Democratic Party will take the initiative in the process of the political realignment among reformist groups because the DP is the only political force that can challenge the established authority of the three Kims, he said.

Top opposition campaign leaders yesterday urged the ruling party to stop alleged illegal campaigns in the last stretch to tomorrow's general elections.

"The ruling New Korea Party should stop committing illegal campaign activities, including vote-buying," said a statement issued by the campaign managers of the three opposition parties.

They also urged the prosecution to investigate charges of election corruption in a way that is not biased against opposition candidates.

Chong Tae-chol, top campaigner of the main opposition National Congress for New Politics, and his counterparts from the Democratic Party and the United Liberal Democrats met yesterday morning to vow to keep the elections clean and fair.

"Campaign irregularities and violence are rampant," the statement said.

They claimed that the Kim Yong-sam administration, together with the prosecution, is allowing the last-minute campaigning to be smeared by all kinds of irregularities.

In an effort to ensure the elections are clean, the opposition campaigners said that they are launching a joint committee, which is charged with detecting illegal campaign activities.

#### **ROK: Exports by Largest General Trading Firms Up 'Sharply'**

*SK1004044796 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 Apr 96 p 8*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The percentage of total Korean exports shipped by the seven largest general trading companies (GTCs) has increased sharply.

According to industry sources yesterday, the exports of the seven major GTCs reached 15.86 billion dollars in

the first quarter ending March, for 49.8 percent of the total exports during the same period.

Their share stood at 43.6 and 46.3 percent in 1994 and 1995, respectively. In 1991 and 1992 it was 43.4 and 43.6 percent. The drastic increase in the share of the GTCs was mainly attributed to the polarization of exports, with the volume of high tech products and heavy chemical goods manufactured by major conglomerates having risen sharply.

During the first quarter of this year, total Korean exports increased by 21.5 percent over the same period last year while those of the GTCs rose by 41.5 percent.

Samsung Corporation saw the stiffest increase rate of 56.0 percent with exports of 4.71 billion dollars while Hyundai Corporation marked a 28.3 percent increase to 3.56 billion dollars.

Daewoo Corporation exported 3.02 billion dollars worth for a 55.4 percent increase and was followed by LG Corporation with 2.05 billion dollars for a 41.9 percent one.

#### **ROK: Finance Ministry Reports \$50 Million Trade Surplus**

*SK1004044696 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 Apr 96 p 9*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After months of continuing deficits, Korea is believed to have posted a trade surplus of 50 million dollars on a customs clearance basis last month, the Ministry of Finance and Economy [MFE] said in its preliminary report.

It said exports appear to have grown 17.9 percent in March over a year ago, more than four times the import growth rate of 3.6 percent.

The ministry said this is the first time since 1990 that Korea recorded a monthly trade surplus in the first quarter.

Due to the trade surplus, the nation's current account deficit, which amounted to 1,520 million dollars in January and 1,770 million dollars in February, was estimated to have been trimmed to about 700 million dollars last month, the ministry said.

Thus the current account deficit was estimated to be 3,990 million dollars for the January-March period, larger than the 3,370 million dollar shortfall recorded in the same period last year.

The government hopes to curb the deficit at 5-6 billion dollars this year on a current account basis.

The current account tracks trade, invisible trade and government to government transfers.



**ROK Ministry Bans Import, Marketing of AIDS Test Drug**

SK1004024096 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD  
in English 10 Apr 96 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Ministry of Health and Welfare yesterday banned the import and marketing of an AIDS test drug manufactured by a U.S. pharmaceutical company following reports it has been ineffective in detecting the virus.

The ministry also instructed hospitals and public health centers across the country not to use the HIV assay drug, IMx HIV-1/HIV-2 3rd Generation Plus produced by Abbott Laboratories.

The measures were taken following the German government's steps to restrict the import and marketing of IMx HIV-1/HIV-2 and a report by Abbott Korea Ltd in connection with the drug.

Kim Yon-pa, a ranking official of the ministry in charge of distribution business of the drug, said, "The German government recently informed the Korean government that it restricted the import and marketing of IMx HIV-1/HIV-2 until May 31 because of trouble in detecting the AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) virus."

He said that Abbott Korea, a company which imported the drug, reported recently to the ministry that the HIV assay drug can present problems in detecting the AIDS virus.

The ministry is estimating that about 20,000 Korean people have taken HIV test using the Abbott products, Kim said.

He added that the ban on the import and marketing is a temporary step.

According to Abbott Korea, a total of 510 kits of the Abbott products (one kit is available for 100 tests) have been brought into this country since January.

Yi Yong-hun, a director of Abbott Korea, said that 279 kits, out of the total have been supplied to hospitals in Korea.

He said, "We reported to the ministry that the HIV assay medicine can be inaccurate in detecting HIV."

Just four cases in which IMx HIV-1/HIV-2 failed to detect the AIDS virus have been reported so far, Yi said. The four break down into two in France, one in Britain, and one in Spain.



### Vietnam

#### SRV: Letter Details 'Antirevisionist Affair'

BK1004020996 (Internet) SEASIA Listserv in English  
9 Apr 96

[Release issued by the Vietnam Committee on Human Rights in Paris on 7 April: "The 'Anti-Revisionist Affair' Presented to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Vietnam Committee on Human Rights received the following letter from Hanoi written by victims of Communist Party "Anti-revisionist" purges of the 1960s.

According to the authors of the letter, this "Affair", which began in 1967, "still continues today". They claim that former victims of these purges and their families are still stigmatized, subjected to discrimination and deprived of their civic and human rights. The letter includes a list of 47 prominent figures arrested and persecuted in this affair.

Addressing the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva last week, the Vietnam Committee on Human Rights called on the Vietnamese delegation to clarify this issue. The Vietnamese Government reacted with a virulent attack on the Vietnam Committee and its President Vo Van Ai, but provided no concrete information on the current situation of these former prisoners.

To the attention of Mr Vo Van Ai, President, Vietnam Committee on Human Rights, Paris

Hanoi, March 29 1996

Dear Sir,

We learned through the press and radio that the United Nations Human Rights Commission is meeting in Geneva to monitor violations of human rights throughout the world. Today, in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, fundamental rights are gravely abused. We are writing to ask you to present our case to the highest authorities in the United Nations, and appeal for their urgent intervention.

In our country, where the Government is not "of the people, by the people, for the people", but "of the Party, by the Party and for the Party", the Politburo, Secretariat and the VCP [Communist Party of Vietnam] has become a supra-state, wielding power over the judiciary, legislative and administrative organs without any restriction or control, as a high-ranking Party official, Mr Tran Do, recently observed. We have therefore no recourse other than to appeal to world conscience, public opinion and the United Nations to help us today.

We are writing to inform you of what is known as the "Anti-Party Revisionist Trial", in which cynical violations of fundamental human rights were perpetrated by the Communist Party of Vietnam. This affair began over thirty years ago, and still continues today. As Hoang Minh Chinh wrote in a recent letter to the National Assembly:

The "Anti-Party Revisionist Trial" was totally unfounded, unlawful and uncivilized. Several dozens, perhaps hundreds of innocent people were calumniated: scientists, writers, journalists — men and women alike — army officers, top military commanders, Ministers and Secretaries of State, Communist Party Central Committee members, revolutionary veterans...

None of them were ever granted the right to stand trial, nor the right to legitimate defence. They were convicted arbitrarily, unlawfully, in total secret, in flagrant disregard of the Constitution, the law courts, the National Assembly and all other state agencies.

For the past thirty years, and right up to this very day, victims continue to file thousands of complaints to the Central Committee and other agencies.

Some people, like Major-general Dang Kim Giang, have lodged dozens of complaints. Others, like Mrs Nguyen thi Ngoc Lan, a University Professor of English, have filed literally hundreds. Needless to say, these complaints have met with a wall silence for the past thirty years.

On the contrary, the victims accused in this affair have been subjected to oppression in all manner of forms, denied of their fundamental rights to freedom of thought, freedom of expression, the right to work and to earn a living, in the most brutal fashion. Even their children are branded as "opposition" elements by the people's dictatorship, stigmatized, and denied access to education (some are prevented from taking University entrance exams, others systematically "failed", or barred from studying subjects of their own choice) etc...

The human rights and civil rights of our people will continue to be trampled on and abused as long as there is no Code governing the relationship between the Party and the State, and until the State ceases ruling by Decrees and Resolutions as it does today. The suggestion of this "Code" was put forward by Mrs Pham Thi Te in one of her numerous complaints to the Party. Mrs Te is the widow of Vu Dinh Huynh, who joined the Party in the 1930s and served for a time as Ho Chi Minh's personal secretary before he became Head of the Party's Investigation Board. Despite his important rank, Vu Dinh Huynh was arrested, tortured and humiliated in the "anti-revisionist affair".



and persecuted after his release until he died. Deprived as we are of the fundamental rights of freedom of expression and freedom of the press, we count on you to alert the United Nations to the plight of these hundreds of innocent, voiceless victims who continue to be persecuted in Vietnam today.

Specifically, in a limited manner, we have compiled a list of 47 people unjustly condemned by the Communist Party in the so-called "Anti-party revisionist affair". If we could make an in-depth inquiry, the number of victims would reach the hundreds. But after all, be it dozens or hundreds, the important thing is to denounce the cruelty and deceit of this dictatorship. These are only figures amongst the millions of oppressed people. We compiled our list today with the words of Dr Sakharov in mind: "If you wish to save the victims, name them!"

We also express our approval and support for the following four clairvoyant, concrete proposals made by writer Bui Minh Quoc in a letter to the National Assembly:

1) We urge the National Assembly, the State and the Party to publish and widely disseminate the text of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which Vietnam is a state Party;

2) We urge the National Assembly, the State and the Party to abolish clause 4 of the 1992 Constitution [regarding the leadership role of the Communist Party, and adopt a Code regulating the activities of the VCP. This Code should limit the Party's power within the framework of the people's control, and prevent the VCP from taking supremacy over the people and the State;

3) We urge the National Assembly, State and Party to expand the scope of the current Press Law to include the right to set up an independent press. Without this provision, freedom of the press is null and void;

4) We urge the National Assembly, State and Party not to look on pluralism and the multi-party system as taboo, but to engage an open, democratic debate on an equal footing with Vietnamese from all walks of life, including overseas Vietnamese, and make these issues the foundation of a democratization process in a climate of peace, stability and development.

Since dictatorships crush all those who dare think and speak freely, the balance of justice sways towards crime. We therefore ask you not to publish our names and addresses. But if the UN can guarantee our security, we are ready for a public confrontation. If you need further reports on human rights violations under the dictatorship of the proletariat, or require us to testify before a Hearing, please call us, we will be there. We look forward to your reply, and place our trust in you,

Sincerely,

List of 47 people arrested and persecuted in the "Anti-Party revisionist Trial"

1. Dang Kim Giang, Major-general, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Head Quartermaster in the Battle of Dien Dinh Phu. Formerly imprisoned at Son La Prison under French colonial rule.
2. Hoang Minh Chinh, Dean of the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Philosophy, Secretary General of the Vietnamese Youth Union, former Secretary General of the Vietnamese Socialist Party. Formerly imprisoned in Son La Prison under French colonial rule.
3. Vu Dinh Huynh, Head of the Government Investigations Board, former personal secretary to President Ho Chi Minh. Formerly imprisoned at Son La Prison under French colonial rule.
4. Nguyen Van Vinh, Major-general, Deputy Defence Minister.
5. Tran Minh Viet, Deputy Secretary of the VCP in Hanoi, Vice-President of the Hanoi People's Committee.
6. Le Trong Nghia, Colonel, Head of the Army Intelligence Service.
7. Le Minh Nghia, Colonel, Chef of Cabinet in the Ministry of Defence.
8. Do Duc Kien, Colonel, Head of Operation Services.
9. Pham Ky Van, Deputy Editor of the "Hoc Tap" review. Formerly imprisoned at Son La Prison under French colonial rule.
10. Hoang The Dung, Lieutenant-colonel, Editor of the "People's Army" daily.
11. Dinh Chan, Captain, Journalist.
12. Luu Dong, Journalist. Formerly imprisoned at Son La Prison under French colonial rule.
13. Tran Thu, Lieutenant-colonel, Editorial secretary of the "People's Army" daily.
14. Nguyen Kien Giang, Journalist, Deputy Director of "Su That" Publishing House.
15. Vu Thu Hien, Writer, no political affiliations, son of Mr. Vu Dinh Huynh.
16. Nguyen Hong Si, Lieutenant-colonel.
17. Tran Chau, Journalist.
18. Huy Van, Film-director, author of the film "One day in Autumn".
19. Vu Huy Cuong, Film-director, no political affiliations.
20. Nguyen Gia Loc, researcher in philosophy.
21. Phung Van My, researcher in philosophy.
22. Bui Ngoc Tan, Writer, no political affiliations.
23. Tuan Nguyen, Poet, no political affiliations.
24. Phan The Van, Dentist, no political affiliations.
25. Nguyen Van Tham, Secretary to Mr. La Liam.



26. Pham Viet, Journalist.
27. Nguyen Thi Ngoc Lan, University Professor of English, wife of Pham Viet.
28. Pham Quang Duc, Civil servant at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, North America Department.
29. Duong Bach Mai, Vice-President of the National Assembly. Died suddenly after taking a drink at the National Assembly bar. Believed to have been poisoned.
30. Ung Van Khiem, Minister of Foreign Affairs, former Communist Party Secretary for Cochinchina, member of the VCP Central Committee.
31. Le Liem, Deputy Minister of Culture, member of the VCP Central Committee, Political Commissar in the Army during the battle of Dien Bien Phu.
32. Bui Cong Trung, Deputy Director of the State Planning Committee, member of the VCP Central Committee.
33. Minh Tranh, Historian, Director of "Su That" Publishing House.
34. Mac Lan, Journalist.
35. Tran Dinh, Journalist.
36. Le Vinh Quoc, Colonel, Political Commissar to the 308th Division.
37. Van Doan (Do Van Doan), Senior Lieutenant-colonel, Editor in Chief of the "People's Army" daily, committed suicide in 1972.
38. Nguyen Minh Can, Member of the VCP permanent Committee in Hanoi, Vice-president of the Hanoi Municipal Administrative Committee, Publications Director of the review "Thu do Ha Noi".
39. Dang Can, Lieutenant-colonel.
40. Nguyen Can, Lieutenant-colonel.
41. Dang Dinh Cau, Major, Journalist.
42. Mai Luan, Major, Journalist.
43. Mai Hien, Major, Journalist.
44. Tran Dinh, Journalist.
45. Quang Han, Journalist.
46. Khac Tiep, Journalist.
47. Dao Phan (Dao Duy Denh), Researcher.

**SRV: Vo Van Kiet Attends Opening of Phu My Power Plant**

*BK0804054896 Hanoi VNA in English  
1443 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA April 7 — A ground-breaking ceremony was held for the construction of a thermal power plant known as Phu My no.2 in Phu My town, Tan Thanh district, the southern province of Ba Ria-vung Tau, today.

Prominent among those present at the ceremony were Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, Deputy P.M Tran Duc Luong, and representatives from the World Bank (WB)

and ABB/Marubeni Consortium, the supplier of equipment for the plant.

The WB-funded plant, which will have two associated gas-fired generator groups (each with a design capacity of 150 mw), is expected to put its first generator group into operation by mid-February next year and the second, by March 17, 1997.

The Phu My no.2 plant is one of the four Phu My power plants which will be built in the province of Ba Ria-vung Tau from now to the year 2000 and beyond.

Investment has been poured into such plants to meet demands for power to the year 2000 estimated at 31 billion kw, doubling the 1995 figure. All power plants and small-sized power generation units throughout the country including those to be operational this year can only produce 14 billion kwh annually.

**SRV Report Details Plans To Upgrade Road System**

*BK0904043996 Hanoi VNA in English  
1242 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA April 7 - Upgrading the road system is one of the most important tasks for Vietnam now that it has embarked on national industrialisation and modernisation.

Vietnam has some 150,000 km of roads, of which over 106,000 km are national highways like Highway 1 stretching over 2,300 km from Lang Son province in the north to the southernmost point of Ca Mau Cape in Minh Hai province.

Every year from 1991, the Ministry of Communication and Transport spends about VND [dong] 1,200 - 1,500 billion (roughly USD 100 - 130 million) on maintenance and repair of the road network. Seven new highways have been built. However, only 15 out of the 53 provinces and cities have all of their communes able to be accessed by car.

Many roads are in bad condition : only 59.4 per cent of national highways are asphalted and 30 per cent have two lanes, while the number of motorized vehicles is increasing rapidly with the existing road system only meeting 60-65 percent of the transport and communication needs.

The average capacity of roads in the north is 5.6 tonnes and 8.2 tonnes in the south.

The government is giving first priority to the repairing and upgrading of the whole road network, especially Highway 1 from now to 2000, with concrete plans based on the demand of economic development of specific regions. Some USD 3.5 billion are needed for the work



in the 1996-2000 period and USD 16 billion in the next period from 2001-2010.

The upgrading of the Trans-Viet Highway 1 is estimated to cost about VND 15,000 billion (USD 1.3 billion). The new road will be 10 to 12 metres wide with two motorised lanes and two smaller lanes for non-motorized vehicles. Fifty-two bridges along the road will be rebuilt or rehabilitated.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank (WB) have pledged to grant VND 7,783 billion (USD 707 million), together with VND 1,185 billion (USD 107 million) contributed by the Vietnamese side, to restore the 2,000 km section from Lang Son to Can Tho. The government is calling for investment capital of some VND 3,500 billion (USD 31 million) for upgrading the remaining section from Can Tho to Ca Mau.

Work on the Hanoi-Vinh and Ho Chi Minh City-Can Tho sections on Highway 1 with a total length of 430 km started at the end of 1995. The projects are valued at USD 176 million with USD 158.5 million coming from the WB with no interest. The upgrading of the 435 km section linking Ho Chi Minh City and Nha Trang, which began last year, received USD 141 million, including a USD 120 million-loan from ADB.

Other projects for the 1996-2000 period are the Hanoi-Lang Son section (163 km), Dong Ha-Nha Trang, with loans from ADB, and Vinh- Dong Ha (280km) with loans pledged by the WB.

Japan's Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) has signed loan agreements to provide nearly 10.4 billion yen or 85 percent of the total estimated cost of 12.21 billion yen for the construction and upgrading of 38 bridges of Highway 1 from Hanoi to Vinh and from Nha Trang to Can Tho.

Bidding for the construction of six bridges on the way linking Vinh and Hanoi and 11 others Nha Trang to Ho Chi Minh City has been opened, but winners have not yet been announced.

The OECF also agreed to fund the building of bridges in the Hanoi-Lang Son and Dong Ha-Nha Trang sections. Feasibility studies for the construction of these bridges were completed and are awaiting for government approval.

The Australian Government has provided non-refundable assistance worth AUD 83 million for the construction of My Thuan Bridge over the Tien River in the Mekong River Delta, which is expected to be complete by the end of 2000. My Thuan and Can Tho ferries will be upgraded in the near future with a grant

worth USD 11.1 million from the Danish Government to serve water communication over the Tien River while the My Thuan bridge is under construction.

Apart from the restoration of Highway 1, the government has also called for the upgrading of other national routes. Highway 5, stretching 106 km and linking Hanoi to northern Vietnam's biggest sea port of Hai Phong, is now widened to four lanes with a total investment of USD 250 million financed by Taiwan and Japan and expected by 2000.

The government also plans to upgrade the 300-m Longpbac Ninh-Mong Cai section of Highway 18, the 130-km long express highway for the Hanoi-[word indistinct], 50 kilometres of Hanoi's surrounding roads, and 200 kilometres of Highway 5 from Lao Cai to Lai Chau. The total cost for these projects is estimated at nearly VND 21.49 billion (roughly USD 1.9 billion), of which Japan, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Britain have pledged to provide about VND 4 billion (USD 358 million). The remainder of the costs will be contributed by the Vietnamese side.

In the south, Highway 51, stretching 180 kilometres from Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau is to be widened to a four-lane road with total expenditures of about USD 180 million while Highway 22, Ho Chi Minh City-Tay Ninh, 80 km in length, will be upgraded at a projected investment of VND 1,200 billion (USD 10 million, which has been committed to be funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to form a sub-regional route extending to Phnom Penh and Bangkok.

Central Vietnam's routes include Highways 217 (Thanh Hoa), 7 (Nghe An), 8 and 12 (Ha Tinh), 9 (Quang Tri), and 14 (Tay Nguyen Central Highlands province) will be reconstructed into a sub-regional route network linking with Laos and Thailand.

In the next decade, a total of 220 kilometres of road from Hanoi to northern localities including Viet Tri (52 km), Thai Nguyen (68 km), Hoa Binh (60 km), and Son Tay (40 km) has been planned to be upgraded.

Projects on building Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City's ring roads will be publicised by mid-1996 with the costs of these projects covered by Britain and Japan.

The Vietnamese Government, together with the World Bank and the Japanese Government have also discussed a plan on the upgrading of provincial road networks in 15 provinces as well as the construction of 29 bridges in the north with a combined cost of USD 87 million.



### **SRV Daily Views Labor Law Violations in Dong Nai**

*BK0504134696 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 Mar 96 p 4*

[Article by Le Hien "What Can We Find in Implementation of Labor Policies in Foreign-Invested Enterprises in Dong Nai Province?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign investment in Dong Nai Province has increased sharply in recent years. In 1995, it rose 232 percent over the previous year. So far, Dong Nai has granted business licenses to 143 foreign projects with a total investment of \$2.314 billion. Forty-three of them are in operation, providing jobs to 23,000 people (not including 1,000 people who have been sent abroad for training).

Most of the workers in these enterprises are young. Their ages range from 18 to 25, and many have finished high school.

To help foreign enterprises thoroughly understand and implement our Labor Code satisfactorily, from the beginning of 1995, the province coordinated with responsible organs to organize many conferences with them on the Labor Code. However, according to the statistics issued by the provincial Federation of Labor, only 50 percent of non-state enterprises have held workshops for their workers on the Labor Code. Moreover, only nine out of 43 foreign enterprises have signed collective labor agreements with their workers. Also, only 50 percent of the foreign enterprises have held workshops on the Labor Code and signed work contracts [howpj doongf lac doongj] with their workers. In these enterprises, only a small percentage of workers have signed work contracts.

In general, proprietors have not given appropriate attention to the signing of the collective labor agreements and the work contract in foreign enterprises. This is because they do not want to be held responsible for implementing the labor policies stipulated by the code. Consequently, foreign enterprises have not implemented labor policies correctly. Many also implement these policies arbitrarily to exploit the workers. They pay low wages, increase shiftwork and working hours, apply the policy on social security and medical insurance incorrectly, and so forth. Some enterprises have increased daily working hours from two to four hours. These enterprises have one or two shifts and most of them produce garments or shoes.

The average salaries are also vary greatly among foreign enterprises. Average salary is only about \$35-55 per month in the garment, shoe, and wool knitting

enterprises. In contrast, it is about \$80-100 in consumer goods production establishments.

What is alarming is that the dignity of Vietnamese workers in these enterprises has been violated by foreign specialists and proprietors with beatings, insults, verbal abuse, punishment, and so forth. Many labor disputes have occurred in Dong Nai Province. There were seven cases in 1995, and many strikes in the Fashion Garments enterprise, Tae Kwang company, Vinaplycos Sawmill plant, Dona Pouchen enterprise, and so forth.

Most of them took place in enterprises where there were no unions. So far, the Dong Nai Federation of Labor has set up 30 unions with 6,041 members in foreign enterprises. Most of these unions have a role in protecting the legitimate interests of workers. However, the number of unions in foreign enterprises is still low because many proprietors do not want them.

At present, the Labor violations Code are still common and take place under various forms and at different levels. Most Vietnamese workers in foreign enterprises are low-disciplined laborers who do not have the proper training to work in an industrial environment. However, it is most regrettable that some Vietnamese managers, who have been transferred from state enterprises to work in foreign joint ventures with much higher salaries, have turned their backs on the interests of Vietnamese workers.

To make foreign enterprises observe Vietnamese labor laws strictly, responsible state organs should regularly check, remind, and take resolute measures against violations. At the same time, the government should quickly introduce concrete regulations on measures to deal with enterprises that deliberately violate our labor laws.

### **SRV Article Discusses Achievements, Shortcomings in Renovation Process**

*963E0012C Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No. 17, Dec 95 pp 8-14*

[Article by Phan Dang Phu: "Renovation in Vietnam: Achievements, Shortcomings, and Lessons To Be Learned"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Since the end of the 1970's when our country fell into an economic and social crisis, the party, based on reviewing practices and in particular on reviewing the creative experiences of the people, has put forth a number of renovation policies, which made important contributions to greatly increasing the economic growth rate during the period 1981-1985. However, during that period, the shortcomings of the bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies mechanism



had not yet been overcome and continued to block the development of the production forces. The advances made and the rate of economic growth were not sufficient to overcome the difficulties. There was still an embargo on the country, and we had to spend large sums on national defense. In addition, a number of the errors made in dealing with wages and prices made the socioeconomic crisis even worse, and inflation rose to more than 700 percent in 1986.

Even so, the renovation results have provided us with many valuable lessons. Based on reviewing practices, examining these lessons, and studying the experiences of other countries, the Sixth Party Congress held in December 1986 implemented new and correct policies. At that congress, with a spirit of facing the truth squarely, evaluating the truth correctly, and speaking the truth, the party seriously reviewed the situation, analyzed the mistakes and shortcomings, arrived at the necessary conclusions, and put forth a comprehensive renovation line, which marked a turning point in moving forward.

The 5 years after the Sixth Congress were a time of difficult struggle for the entire party and all the people. The renovation movement was carried on resolutely. But the situation remained very complex, and there were times when it seemed as if it would be very difficult to overcome the difficulties. For 3 consecutive years, inflation remained in triple digits, the standard of living of those who lived on wages and social subsidies declined greatly, at many state enterprises and small industry and handicrafts cooperatives production stagnated and some had to shut down and disband, hundreds of thousands of workers had to leave production, many cultural and educational cadres could not earn enough to live on and had to leave these professions, and there were many cases of fraud and credit failures. Also, the complex changes occurring in the world had a negative effect on our country.

In this situation, our party, state, and people once again showed their great strength and high quality by making an effort to overcome the difficulties and carrying on a resolute struggle. Efforts were concentrated on solving the urgent socioeconomic problems, maintaining political stability, carrying on renovation in the various spheres of social life, gradually implementing the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress in daily life, and bringing about positive changes. In 1987, inflation was 416.7 percent, and at the beginning of 1988, there was starvation in many areas. But by the beginning of 1989, the country was exporting 1-1.5 million tons of rice a year, consumer goods were satisfying the needs of society much better, and inflation was gradually declining. The lives of the people were improved, democ-

racy in society was manifested, and the people's confidence was gradually restored. The implementation of the "three large economic programs" made clear advances. We began forming a state-controlled, multifaceted commodity economy that operated in accord with a market mechanism. Encouraging advances were made on such fronts as adjusting the national defense strategy, maintaining national security, strengthening diplomatic activities, ending the encirclement and isolation, building the party, and so on.

However, the results achieved still had many limitations and were unstable, and many pressing social problems arose. The Seventh Party Congress affirmed: The renovation movement has scored very important initial achievements, but the country is still in the midst of an economic and social crisis.

The Seventh Congress passed the Program, Strategy, Political Report, and (revised) party statutes. Starting from the country's actual situation and the international environment as we entered the 1990s and based on the targets of the transitional period, the congress stated that the general targets for the Seventh Term were: To overcome the difficulties, meet the challenges, stabilize and develop the economy and society, strengthen political stability, eliminate negative phenomena and social injustices, and bring our country out of the crisis. The congress developed an independent and broad diplomatic line based on the spirit: "Vietnam wants to be friends with all countries in the international community and will struggle for peace, independence, and development."

Not long after the Seventh Congress, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union had a great impact on our country. Many cadres and people were very concerned, and a number of people began vacillating and having doubts about the future of socialism. Economic relations between Vietnam and its traditional markets were turned upside down. At the same time, the United States continued its embargo on us. Enemy forces outside promoted "peaceful evolution" activities in an effort to stir up trouble and topple our system. A number of reactionary elements within the country took advantage of this to rise up and carry on destructive activities. Once again, our country was facing very serious challenges.

In that very complex situation, our party and people adhered firmly to the renovation line and correct guidelines set by the Seventh Congress and won many great victories. Most strikingly:

1. We increased the rate of economic and social development and for the first time hit many of the main targets of the five-year plan.



During the period 1991-1995, the gross domestic product (GDP) increased at an average annual rate of 8.2 percent (the plan called for a growth rate of 5.5-6.0 percent; the rate during the period 1986-1989 was 3.9 percent). Industrial production grew at an average annual rate of 13.3 percent, and agriculture grew at a rate of 4.5 percent (the figures for 1986-1990 were 5.9 percent and 3.6 percent respectively). The economic structure underwent changes: The percentage of GDP accounted for by industry and construction rose from 22.6 percent in 1990 to 30.3 percent in 1995; services increased from 38.6 percent to 42.5 percent; and the export value increased an average of 20 percent a year. Capital investment in society rose from 15.8 percent of GDP in 1990 to 27.4 percent in 1995, of which 16.7 percent was accounted for by domestic sources of investment. And we began accumulating from within the economy. Capital, technology, and management experiences from abroad increased rapidly. By the end of 1995, foreign investment plans totaling approximately \$18 billion in registered capital had been approved. And of this, one-third of the capital was invested. Inflation declined from 67.1 percent in 1991 to only 5.2 percent in 1993, 14.4 percent in 1994, and 12.3 percent for the first 10 months of 1995.

Scientific and technical activities are now tied more closely to the needs of economic and social development and fit the market mechanism. The technical and technological advances are being used effectively in production and daily life. A number of the advanced techniques have been imported from abroad.

The multifaceted commodity economy is growing, production relations have been adjusted in accord with the development requirements of the production forces, and a state-controlled, socialist-oriented market mechanism is being built.

2. We have made a number of good changes on the social front.

The material lives of most people have improved. The number of households with average incomes and the number of wealthy households is increasing, and the percentage of poor households is declining relatively quickly. Each year, another 1 million laborers enter the work force. The annual rate of increase in the number of employed people is beginning to match and slightly exceed the annual increase in the size of the labor force. In 5 years, the volume of commodities sold at the markets has doubled (price increases have been discounted). The people's use of durable goods has increased rapidly. Many buildings and roads have been improved and built in the rural areas and cities. Advances have been made in the sphere of public health,

particularly in disease prevention, primary health care, and the prevention of epidemics. Sports activities have expanded with respect to both general movements and a number of top activities.

The people's standard of culture has risen greatly, and the cultural lives of the people have improved. The activities of the mass media, education and training, cultural and artistic activities, family planning, and many other social activities have expanded and made advances.

The dynamism and creativity of the people have been aroused and exploited. Laborers are more active and dynamic in looking for work, finding ways to increase their incomes, and improving their lives, and they are more enthusiastic in participating in and contributing ideas to the general life of the community. Notable advances have been made in overcoming such characteristics as being dependent on others, being passive, and relying on the state and collective.

All the people have responded to the movement to thank and repay people of merit. The movements to eliminate hunger and poverty and the charitable activities to help the disabled and those who have encountered difficulties are expanding and contributing to reducing the difficulties of many families and individuals. It can be said that this is a new and wonderful feature in the lives of our people.

The people's confidence in the future of the country, in the leadership of the party and state, and in the system has increased.

3. We have continued to maintain political stability, solidify national defense and security, defend our system, and maintain the independence and peaceful environment of the country. These achievements are the integrated result of the renovation movement. In this, national defense and security play a particularly important role.

The party has determined the guideline, task, and guiding viewpoint for defending the fatherland in the new situation more clearly: Continue to successfully adjust the national defense and security strategy on many fronts. The security front has been reorganized and strengthened. We have smashed the plots to topple our system and the activities aimed at stirring up political turmoil. More attention is being given to the need to solidify national defense and improve the lives of the armed forces. The quality and combat strength of the military have been increased. The all-peoples national defense front has been solidified and strengthened.



4. Many important renovations have been made in the political system.

Based on the program to build the country during the period of transition to socialism, the party has gradually supplemented and concretized the renovation line and clarified the path to building socialism in our country. The party has been solidified politically, ideologically, and organizationally, leadership formulas have been renovated, and the party's leadership role in society has been strengthened. We have amended the constitution and amended and promulgated many important laws, including laws on the state apparatus, the Civil Code, the Arable Land Law, the Labor Code, the State Enterprise Law, and the Domestic Investment Law. We have reformed the national apparatus somewhat and built and gradually perfected the law-governed state of the SRV. The activities of the various-echelon state organizations have been renovated in line with manifesting democracy, strengthening discipline, and increasing effectiveness. The fronts, mass organizations, mass associations, and social organizations have gradually renovated their operating contents and formulas and achieved more practical results. The ownership rights of the people in the economic, political, ideological, and cultural spheres have been manifested. The tribesmen and various strata of people are showing greater solidarity and are tied more closely to the common goal: a prosperous people, strong country, and just and civilized society. More and more overseas Vietnamese are returning home because of this target.

5. We have greatly expanded diplomatic relations, broken the encirclement, and ended our isolation and are actively participating in the life of the international community.

Actively and dynamically developing an independent and pluralistic diplomatic line, our country has restored normal relations and expanded cooperation on many fronts with China, neighboring countries, and other countries in the region. We have become a full member of ASEAN, strengthened our traditional friendly relations with many countries, and gradually renovated relations with the countries that were part of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. We have restored and strengthened relations with the developed industrial countries and with international and regional organizations. We have normalized Vietnamese-American relations and expanded relations with countries in South Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

We have continued to develop solidarity and friendly relations with other communist parties and workers, independence movements, and progressive revolutionary organizations and movements in the world. We have

established and promoted relations with the parties in power in a number of countries. The diplomatic activities of the mass organizations and political and social organizations and relations with non-government organizations have been expanded.

Diplomatic relations have been expanded on the political, economic, scientific, technical, cultural, artistic, and other fronts. In this, foreign economic relations have expanded relatively quickly. Our country now has diplomatic relations with 156 countries and trade relations with more than 100 countries. More than 50 countries and territories have a direct investment relationship (FDI), and many governments and international organizations have given us aid or development loans (ODA).

Our success in the diplomatic sphere is an important factor that has contributed to maintaining peace, ending the encirclement and embargo, improving the international environment, improving our country's position in the world, and creating favorable conditions for building and defending the country. This is a positive contribution by our party, state, and people to the common work of the peoples of the world for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

With the above achievements, we have created an environment both here and abroad that is favorable for building and defending the fatherland.

However, it must be admitted that our renovation movement still has many shortcomings and weaknesses. Attention must be given to the following:

1. Our country is poor, but we have not practiced frugality in production and consumption. Accumulation from within the economy is still too low.

At present, our country is still one of the poorest countries in the world. The level of development of production and social labor productivity are low. The material and technical base of the economy still has many backward aspects. There is a large and pressing need for investment capital. But some of our cadres and people live extravagantly and spend more than they earn, and they have not saved in order to amass capital for investment. The state lacks policies to effectively mobilize the capital held by the people. In 1995, investment in capital construction using domestic capital (including capital depreciation assets) accounted for only 16.7 percent of GDP, and in this budget funds accounted for only 4.2 percent of GDP. This is very low as compared with the economic development requirements and the need to obtain foreign capital. The use of our sources of strength is still dispersed and ineffective. We have not resolutely concentrated our



efforts on the urgent economic and social programs and plans.

2. In developing a multifaceted economy, leading the building of new production relations is confused and lax, the many potential capabilities have not been exploited well, and the production strength has not been liberated.

We have been sluggish in solving the problems having to do with mechanisms and policies in order to create a motive force and favorable conditions to enable state enterprises to improve their operating results, accumulate capital, invest in development, and play a guiding role in the national economy. We have not given attention to reviewing practices and promptly pointing out guidelines and measures to renovate the cooperative economy. We have allowed cooperatives in a number of place to collapse or exist in form only, which has kept production from expanding. We have not promptly reviewed or helped the new forms of economic cooperation to develop. We have failed to implement a number of policies to stimulate the private economy and have it exploit its potential and contribute to developing the country. At the same time, we have not managed this economic element very well. We have not actively guided tests in issuing shares in the state enterprises and expanding the share economy. There are many loopholes in managing the joint enterprises with other countries. At times, there has been an erroneous tendency to privatize all the state enterprises, and little or almost no attention has been given to guiding the development of the cooperative economy.

3. The market mechanism is still new, and the state's macrocosmic management role with respect to the economy is weak.

The economic management system is still changing. Our laws, mechanisms, and policies are not synchronized or unified and do not have a common effect in order to stimulate and guide economic growth and improve results.

The finance, banking, and price management mechanisms and policies, the policies on economic development planning, construction projects, arable land use management, administrative procedures, and so on have made progress, but in general renovation has been slow. State commerce has abandoned a number of important "battlefields" and has failed to manifest its guiding role in commodity circulation and in stabilizing market prices and protecting the producers and consumers. There are many loopholes and negative aspects in managing exports and imports, and there have been many things that have had a bad effect on domestic production. Income distribution is still irrational. There is still a large budget deficit and trade deficit. Inflation has not

yet been brought under firm control. In general, the development of the economy is still spontaneous in nature and ineffective.

Scientific and technical activities, the protection of our resources and ecological environment, cadre training, and a number of cultural and artistic activities have failed to achieve the results commensurate with the position and importance of these spheres.

4. The social situation still contains many negative aspects. Not only have we failed to stop corruption, smuggling, and waste of public property, but these things are even increasing. There are serious and long-standing negative phenomena in the state apparatus, party, and mass organizations, particularly in the spheres of investment, housing and land, capital construction, taxation, and imports and exports and even in the activities of many law enforcement organizations. The rich-poor gap between the regions, between urban and rural areas, and between the various strata of people is growing wider and wider. The lives of some of the people, particularly those living in revolutionary base areas and resistance areas and a number of mountainous areas and tribal areas are very difficult, and their living conditions are improving very slowly. The quality of public health services, education, and training is still poor in many places. Poor people do not have enough money to pay for medical treatment or send their children to school. Social evils are expanding. Security and social order have not been maintained well.

5. The political system has been renovated, but there are still many shortcomings.

The leadership capabilities and effectiveness of the party, the control and management effectiveness of the state, and the operating results of the mass organizations have not kept pace with the demands of the situation. The apparatus of the party, state, and mass organizations has not been reorganized in a timely manner, and quality has not been improved. There are many manifestations of bureaucratism. The democratic rights of the people have not been respected fully, and occasionally these rights have been seriously violated. The work of selecting, training, and replacing cadres, reducing the average age of the ranks of cadres, and preparing future cadres is still confused and sluggish. The capabilities and qualities of the cadres do not match the requirements of the tasks. What is very worrisome is that in the new situation, the revolutionary ideals of some of the cadres and party members have weakened, and the moral quality of some cadres and party members has declined. Also, the combat strength of a number of party bases is weak.

Thus, overall, we have scored many important achievements and created favorable preconditions for the next



stage of development. It can be affirmed that at present, although there are still a number of things that have not been solidified, our country has gotten out of the economic and social crisis, virtually completed the tasks of the initial stage of the transitional period, and can move ahead to promote the industrialization and modernization of the country. The path to socialism in our country is becoming clearer and clearer.

Looking back at renovation during the past period, the entire party and all the people can be proud of the achievements scored. The important thing is to learn the lessons for the coming stages. Those lessons are:

1. During the renovation process, we must always hold to the targets of national independence and socialism.

Reality proves that the all-round renovation decision of the party at the Sixth Congress was heroic, correct, and clear-sighted, and it was in accord with the demands of life and the wishes of the people. The important thing is that from the very beginning, we clearly determined that renovation did not mean changing the target of socialism but that this was a more correct viewpoint on socialism and that this was a way to hit that target using suitable forms and measures.

Renovation must be carried on based on protecting, inheriting, and exploiting the valuable traditions of the nation and the revolutionary achievements already scored. Criticizing the errors and shortcomings must go hand in hand with affirming the correct things. We must not reject the past completely, waver, lose our sense of direction, or go from one extreme to another.

In renovating things, we must constantly adhere to the two strategic tasks of building and defending the fatherland, and we must adhere firmly to Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh thought and maintain the leadership role of the party.

2. The relationship between renovating the political system and renovating the economy must be handled correctly, and from the very beginning there must be close coordination between economic renovation and political renovation. The party began the renovation movement by renovating political thinking in formulating domestic and foreign lines and policies. Without that renovation, there could not have been renovation on other fronts. At the same time, the party determined that efforts had to be concentrated above all on renovating the economy, ending the economic and social crisis, creating the necessary material and psychological preconditions to maintain political stability, building the confidence of the people, and creating favorable conditions to renovate the other aspects of social life.

In renovating the organization and operating mechanism of the political system, we have moved carefully and steadily and given attention to solving the most pressing problems. Reality shows that this is the correct way because the organization and operating mechanism of the political system is a very complex and sensitive sphere. If things are rushed and mistakes are made, the price would be very high, and it might not be possible to save the situation.

The main target of political renovation is to implement socialist democracy better and manifest the ownership rights of the people more fully. The important lesson is that democracy must go hand in hand with discipline. We must overcome violations of the ownership rights of the people and, at the same time, oppose the trend toward extreme democracy. We must resolutely reject all plots aimed at using "democracy" and "human rights" to stir up political turmoil, destroy our system, or interfere in our country's internal affairs. We certainly can't accept political pluralism or a multi-party system.

3. Renovating the economy and building a multifaceted commodity economy that operates based on a market mechanism must go hand in hand with strengthening the management role of the state.

We have studied and are using the economic forms and market economy management methods of capitalist countries in order to support hitting the target of building socialism, but we are not allowing the country to develop by following the capitalist path. A market economy has positive aspects, but it also has negative aspects and conflicts with the nature of socialism. The tendency for the gap between rich and poor to grow too large leads to social polarization and the worship of money. For the sake of money, people trample on social morals. Thus, in developing a market economy, we must struggle to overcome these negative tendencies and limit the price that must be paid as much as possible.

In order to expand production strength, the party advocates exploiting the capabilities of all economic elements, including the capitalist economy. We recognize that in reality, there is still exploitation and a certain gap between the rich and the poor in society. But we must always give attention to protecting the interests of the laborers, limiting the gap between the rich and the poor, encouraging people to become wealthy legitimately, eliminating poverty, and gradually bringing about social fairness. Stated another way, developing the economy must go hand in hand with correctly solving the social problems.

4. The all-people solidarity bloc must be expanded, and the strength of the entire nation must be exploited.



The revolution is the work of the people, for the people, and by the people. The ideas, aspirations, and suggestions of the people were a source for forming the party's renovation line. The renovation movement has scored achievements because of the fact that the people have responded to the renovation line, carried on renovation bravely, withstood the challenges, and overcome the difficulties. In order to carry on renovation more intensively and score even greater achievements, we must continue expanding the all-people solidarity bloc, including overseas Vietnamese, forge solidarity with everyone who wants to contribute to hitting the target of a prosperous people, strong country, and just and civilized society, and mobilize the inner strength of the entire nation in order to take this opportunity to develop the country, overcome the dangers, and meet the challenges.

5. We must strive to gain the sympathy, support, and help of the people of the world for the just cause of our people.

Our country's renovation movement is in accord with the developmental trend of the present age, and it has the broad support of the people of the world. Expanding diplomatic relations and strengthening friendly and cooperative relations with other countries for the target of peace, independence, and development will create a favorable international environment and provide us with positive factors to support the renovation movement in building and defending the country. Expanding international relations must go hand in hand with maintaining independence and preserving the color and wonderful traditions of the nation. We can make new friends, but we must always be loyal to our old comrades and friends and respect traditional relations.

6. The leadership role of the party must be maintained, and party building must be regarded as the key task.

Our party is the party in power. Both the victories and successes and the defeats and failures of the revolution are closely tied to the responsibilities of the party. In renovating the country, the party has seriously reexamined its mistakes and weaknesses and put forth the task of renovating and reorganizing the party in order to improve its leadership capabilities to match the demands in the new stage. The enemies of socialism are concentrating their efforts on destroying the ideological and organizational foundation of the party. At the turning points in the revolution, these destructive activities become even fiercer. Reality in our country and in many other countries shows that one of their main stratagems is to distort history, sow doubts, disparage and refute the achievements of the revolution, and refute the sacrifices and deeds

of communists. They exaggerate the mistakes and shortcomings of the party and look for ways to slander the party. They use opportunists, malcontents, traitors, and morally degraded people to destroy the solidarity of the party from within and to weaken and smash the party. They talk about the issues of "human rights" and "democracy," demand that the state apparatus, above all the armed forces, be depoliticized, and demand that we implement political pluralism and a multi-party system and abolish the leadership role of the party.

Clearly recognizing the new requirements of the revolution and the above dangers, the party has decided that in the present stage, economic development is the center and party building is the key. Attention must be given to reviewing party building and to solidifying the party in terms of politics, ideology, organization, and cadres. We must adhere to the principle of democratic centralism in party organization and activities. We must strengthen education and forge the position, viewpoints, and model vanguard nature of party members. We must resolutely struggle to overcome negative and degenerate phenomena within the party and oppose the tendency to reject the leadership role of the party. We must learn the lessons, renovate the leadership formulas, and improve the leadership standards and effectiveness of the party with respect to the political system and all of society.

#### **SRV: Nguyen Manh Cam Addresses External Relations Congress**

*BK0804133096 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese  
28 Mar 96 p 1,4*

[Report by D.T.]

[FBIS Translated Text] The party committee of the Bloc of Central External Relations Organs [BCERO] held on 26-27 March a congress with the participation of 166 delegates. Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam, member of the party Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; Hong Ha, secretary of the party Central Committee Secretariat and chief of the Central External Relations Department; and many representatives of central organs attended the congress.

The congress enthusiastically discussed and contributed views to the documents of the eighth national party congress and the BCERO report.

It unanimously held that the BCERO party committee has satisfactorily fulfilled its political duty for the period of 1991-95, effectively executed the party and state's line on foreign affairs, and contributed to maintaining peace, political security, and the socialist direction of our country. It has helped protect our national sovereignty and integrity and created favorable



conditions for national construction and security. It has helped our party, state, and people to contribute to the common undertaking of world peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. The BCERO party committee has also maintained and consolidated party building work abroad. So far, Vietnam has established diplomatic ties with more than 160 countries. It is the first time that we have diplomatic relations with all major countries (permanent members of the UN Security Council), resumed relations with international financial and monetary organizations and with many international and regional international organizations. Especially, we have joined ASEAN and set up trade relations with more than 100 countries and direct investment relations with more than 50 countries and territories.

Our party has maintained and consolidated ties with other communist parties, workers' movements, and leftist and progressive forces. It has established and accelerated relations with many ruling parties in various regions. So far, our party has set up relations with more than 180 parties and movements in the world. Our external activities have been reformed and broadened in order to contribute to the activities of international democratic organizations and to obtain spiritual and material support and aid from the world for our economic development and national security.

In the last official term, the BCERO party committee has made improvements in party building work. Therefore, all of its four party committees have acquired the status of being clean and strong.

Based on the goals, functions, and duties of all BCERO organs and party committees, the congress confirmed BCERO party committee's goals for the next official term. They are as follows: Making all party committees improve political awareness, ideological knowledge, and the organization; fulfilling all political duties assigned to all members of the BCERO; contributing practically to industrialization and modernization; contributing actively to the broadening and consolidation of party, state, and people's international relations; creating more conditions for our national security and construction; heightening the position of our party and state in the world; and contributing to the common struggle of the people of the world for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

On behalf of the Political Bureau, Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam clearly pointed out in his address: At present, there are advantages, difficulties, opportunities, and dangers in our national development. Our urgent requirement is to actively grasp opportunities, create new strengths, resolutely push back all dangers — starting with the four dangers cited by the party, and

the new dangers — and to rapidly develop the country on the path chosen by Uncle Ho, party, and our people.

This requires us to raise our external activities to a new level, both in strategies and policies, working content and method, and in scope and extent so as to satisfactorily combine our national strength with the strength of the era to overcome all obstacles on our forward path.

The new period demands that we correctly solve all relations for the best results, i.e. relations between the regional and international integration, between independence and sovereignty with interdependency among nations, between national interests with international obligations, and many similar relations.

The new period demands that we further fulfill our advisory role for the building of the party's external relations policies and its implementation.

Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam stressed: To satisfactorily carry out these tasks, BCERO cadres and party members — who are the vanguard soldiers in foreign affairs — must continuously study and train to improve their knowledge and revolutionary quality.

In the new situation, party building work will have an important meaning because a unit can be efficient and a duty can be satisfactorily fulfilled only when the party committee in the unit is strong. Likewise, the satisfactory execution of the political duty will strengthen the party committee.

The party congress elected 19 members of the executive party committee and nine delegates to attend the eighth national congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

#### SRV: CPV Publicizes Draft Political Report

BK0904160196 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network  
in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Apr 96

[Radio report on a news conference held in Hanoi on the morning of 9 April by the Party Central Committee Secretariat; passages within slant lines recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] A news conference was organized in Hanoi this morning by the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Central Committee Secretariat to introduce a political report to be presented by the Seventh Party Central Committee to the Eighth National CPV Congress. This document is to be published for public consideration.

Delegated by the Secretariat, the following comrades jointly presided over the news conference: Hong Ha, secretary of the Party Central Committee and head of



the Party Central Committee's Foreign Relations Department; Ha Dang, member of the Party Central Committee and head of the Party Central Committee's Ideology and Culture Department; Le Mai, member of the Party Central Committee and deputy foreign minister; Vo Van Tai, deputy head of the Party Central Committee's Foreign Relations Department; and Dinh Huu Khoa, deputy chief of the party Central Committee's Office. Present at the news conference were more than 300 local and foreign newsmen representing various news agencies and newspapers.

At the start of the news conference, Comrade Hong Ha informed local and foreign newsmen of the Eighth National CPV Congress, which will have the duty to review the implementation of the Seventh Party Congress's Resolution and the platform, strategy, and party statutes. The congress will also recapitulate the results of 10 years of renovation, set forth the orientations and steps to carry out the national industrialization and modernization program to the years 2000 and 2020, supplement or amend party statutes, and elect the new Party Central Committee.

Next, he introduced the main contents of the draft political report. He said:

/The draft political report makes it clear that over the past 10 years, the renovation process has scored achievements of great importance. The tasks set forth by the Seventh Party Congress for the 1991-95 five-year period have been basically completed. Though Vietnam has extricated itself from a socioeconomic crisis, some aspects of life have not been firmly consolidated yet. The tasks set forth for the initial stage of the transition period, which are aimed at preparing the premises for industrialization, have been basically completed. Vietnam is now shifting to a new stage, the stage of accelerating the process of national industrialization and modernization. Vietnam's advance toward socialism has been defined more and more clearly every passing day.

The above-mentioned achievements are the results of the painstaking efforts that the Vietnamese communist party and people have made for many years now to find new ways of doing things. They must also be attributed to the cooperation, support, and assistance of many countries in the world. On this occasion, on behalf of the CPV Central Committee, I would like to express thanks to all countries and parties that we have maintained relations with, as well as to our friends on the five continents for their fine sentiments and gestures toward Vietnam./

After introducing the main contents of the draft political report scheduled to be made public tomorrow in the local mass media for public consideration, Comrade

Hong Ha answered questions raised by local and foreign newsmen on a number of issues relating to the Eighth Party Congress.

In response to a question raised by a correspondent of the Ho Chi Minh City-based paper TUOI TRE as to whether there is a difference between the socialist orientations set forth in the draft political report and the socialist modality that we have formulated in the past, Comrade Hong Ha said:

/Socialism has its own characteristics. To achieve the goal of socialist construction based on all of those characteristics requires a long period of time. To carry out national construction based on socialist orientations means to set forth major trends, policies, and solutions to gradually incorporate those characteristics in Vietnam./

In response to a question raised by a correspondent of the ASIA ECONOMIC TIMES regarding the policy to perpetuate the private economic sector in Vietnam and the timing of the Eighth Party Congress, Comrade Hong Ha said:

/..in mid-1996. With regard to the private economic sector, the draft political report has pointed out its role and made it clear that this sector should not worry because it may do business on a long-term basis./

Also touching on the issue relating to the private economic sector, in response to a question as to whether party members are allowed to engage in private economic activities, Comrade Hong Ha said:

/Both the operating instructions and the draft supplements or amendments to the party statutes to be presented to the upcoming Party Congress state that party members are not allowed to engage in private capitalist economic activities. This means that they are not allowed to resort to exploitation./

In response to a question raised by a FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW correspondent on the state role in the ongoing privatization program, Comrade Hong Ha said:

/The privatization of the state business sector is a very difficult task. Nonetheless, it is the state's policy to encourage this. As for the concrete measures to implement this task, they will be decided by the party congress./

A NHAN DAN correspondent asked why the mid-term national party conference used the term accelerating the industrialization and modernization undertaking, whereas the draft political report uses the term accelerating the process of industrialization and modernization? What are the differences? Comrade Hong Ha clarified:



/The mid-term national party conference was held at a time when the 1991-95 five-year plan was being drafted. The planning outlined the goal of accelerating industrialization and modernization a step further. However, the planning is now completed and we have recorded many new and encouraging achievements. These achievements enable us to strongly accelerate national industrialization and modernization./

An correspondent from AP of the U.S. asked what would the current and future role of the state management over the various economic sectors be, now that these economic sectors are developing. Comrade Hong Ha said:

/(The draft political report) mentions successes and shortcomings. The shortcomings refer to the weaknesses of state management. Therefore, the renovation must be accelerated to strengthen socioeconomic development and state management. The strengthening of state management will create favorable conditions for the development of production and for foreign investors to do business in Vietnam./

The newspaper BAC THAI correspondent asked how the eighth national party congress will treat the mountainous regions, especially the former revolutionary bases, where the development gap with the plains is widening. Comrade Hong Ha stated:

/What you have said is correct. I have just visited Bac Thai Province. I found the situation there exactly as described. I also came across the same situation on my trips to ten other mountainous provinces. This draft political report refers to a very important point as follows: While we concentrate all our resources on key economic areas; other areas, especially the mountainous and ethnic minority areas, must be given adequate attention so that the economic gap between various areas are not too wide apart. Most of the ethnic minority areas are former revolutionary and resistance bases. All of us must see to it that the economy of these areas perform well and that the local people enjoy a bountiful and happy life./

An ASIA FINANCE WEEK correspondent asked since the state will contribute about 60 percent of the GDP in the year 2020, whether this rate is higher than the current one. Comrade Hong Ha said: /Yes, this rate is higher./

Answering whether the personnel of the Eighth National Party Congress will be younger than those at the Seventh National Party Congress, Comrade Hong Ha said:

/As regards to personnel, we will implement the motto of combining all age groups and generations to ensure

stability, continuity, and succession. However, the party Central Committee attaches great importance to the issue of rejuvenation./

A Voice of Vietnam correspondent said in building a multi-sectorial economy, there will certainly be disparities of wealth and poverty. How will this issue be tackled? Furthermore, when we implement the open-door policy, how can we preserve our national character? Comrade Hong Ha clarified:

/The first is one of the most important issues of the draft political report of the party congress. The correct and legal amassing of wealth must go together with the efforts to actively eliminate hunger and reduce poverty. Recently, various localities and sectors have solved this issue. Many localities have declared the elimination of hunger and by the year 2000, they would reduce the poverty rates to very low levels.

Regarding the second issue, the draft political report says we must preserve our national cultural character and accumulate the essence of the world at the same time. Therefore, while we are implementing the open-door policy, we learn from the fine aspects and overcome the negative cultural aspects./

When there were no more questions from national and foreign correspondents, Comrade Hong Ha, on behalf of the party Secretariat, sincerely thanked the correspondents for their attendance at this important news conference. He then declared the conference closed.

#### **SRV: Preparing for the Eighth Party Congress**

**963E0012B Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN**  
*in Vietnamese No. 17, Dec 95 p 7*

[Party Journal Editorial: "Actively Make Preparations To Ensure the Success of the Eighth Party Congress"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the tense atmosphere of promoting production and the work of the final months of 1995, to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the founding of the unified National Front, a happy piece of news for the entire party, the entire military, and all the people is that the Ninth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee (Seventh Term), a plenum of great significance, was a wonderful success. Those at the plenum discussed and made decisions on the basic themes and important issues mentioned in the draft documents that the Central Committee will submit at the Eighth National Party Congress. The basic ideas and viewpoints of the plenum have provided a basis and are guiding the entire party in making good preparations for the various-echelon congresses leading to the National



Party Congress and taking our country into a new period of development.

The tasks of the Eighth Congress are to review the implementation of the resolution of the Seventh Congress and the implementation of the Program, Strategy, and party statutes, to review the 10 years of renovation, to put forth guidelines and measures for carrying on industrialization and modernization of the the country to the years 2000 and 2020, to supplement and revise the party statutes, and to elect a new central committee. Thus, the Eighth Congress is of historical significance. This congress marks an important turning point for our country in moving into a new period of development, a period of promoting industrialization and modernization with the target being to have a prosperous people, strong country, and just and civilized society.

Actively making preparations to ensure that the Eighth Party Congress is a success is a very important task of the entire party. As General Secretary Do Muoi said at the close of the plenum, there are many things that must be done between now and the congress. Along with leading and organizing things to ensure that the regular political tasks are carried out well, the party committee echelons are responsible for guiding the various-echelon party organization congresses in accord with the directives of the Secretariat. They must thoroughly understand the basic viewpoints and apply the spirit of the contents and orientation of the Ninth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee in preparing the political reports presented at their echelon's party organization congress and, at the same time, organize things well to discuss and contribute ideas to the draft documents to be submitted at the Eighth Congress. The success of the Eighth Congress depends greatly on making careful preparations and carrying on the various-echelon congresses effectively. Before the Ninth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, the party committee echelons, the Fatherland Front, many scientific research organizations, many specialists, and many experienced cadres contributed ideas to the draft documents of the Eighth Congress. This plenum of the central committee carefully examined the ideas contributed in order to perfect the draft report. Along with gaining a thorough understanding of the viewpoints and basic directions, the various-echelon congresses must continue to discuss and perfect the drafts reports and contribute to improving the scientific and revolutionary nature of the documents of the Eighth Congress.

Along with the debates within the party, we are exploiting the intelligence of all the people and using the comprehensive ideas of the various strata of people to make practical contributions to the draft documents of the Eighth Congress. We are working through the Fa-

therland Front, mass organizations, and social organizations to carry out this task, create an atmosphere of open and democratic political activity, ensure that the preparations for the Eighth Congress are not only the work of the party but also the concern of each person, and ensure that the Eighth Congress is really a red-letter day for the entire party and all the people.

Making preparations for the various-echelon party organization congresses and National Party Congress is closely tied to carrying on practical activities, elevating the revolutionary action movement of the people, successfully completing the 1995 tasks, making preparations to implement the 1996 economic and social development plan, and starting the 1996-2000 five-year tasks. The sectors, echelons, and units must organize and mobilize the cadres, party members, and people to enthusiastically participate in the activities to hail the Eighth Party Congress. The activities must be practical and contribute to increasing the trust and enthusiasm of all the people.

Every national party congress marks a step in the growth of the party in terms of politics, theory, and practical organization, the will to fight on behalf of the class and nation, the spirit of unified solidarity, and the concept of organization and discipline throughout the party and strengthens the close relationship between the party and the people. The responsibilities and requirements of the Eighth Congress are very heavy and important. The entire party, all the people, and the entire military are emulating to successfully complete the economic and social tasks, manifest a spirit of mastery, contribute their intelligence, and make the best preparations possible to ensure the success of the Eighth National Congress of Delegates.

#### **SRV Party Organization Congress Held by 3d Military Region**

*BK0904090896 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 1 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The 3d Military Region held a party organization congress from 28-30 March. With a spirit of urgency and conscientiousness, the congress actively discussed and contributed many profound ideas to various documents of its higher-echelon party organization congress and to the political report and the party-building report to be presented at the Eighth National Party Congress.

The congress reached a consensus on the political report of the Party Central Committee's Military Commission and proposed that the upcoming Army-Wide Party Congress clearly define the army's strategy for productive



labor and economic construction, which is being implemented in parallel with efforts to carry out planning and provide training for the contingent of economic cadres.

After discussing a political report of the military region party committee, the congress reached a consensus on this and emphasized: In its upcoming term of office, the military region party organization must continue to strengthen its political and ideological didactic efforts so as to enhance the working-class character of the party; and must step up the building of defensive areas, particularly the building of self-defense militia forces at sensitive points into steadfast units in order to defend our sovereignty over our territorial seas, and at the same time, improve the inculcation of a sense of national defense.

Speaking at the conference, Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Nam Khanh, member of the Party Central Committee and deputy head of the Political General Department, emphasized: In its previous term of office, the 3d Military Region Party Organization did a good job in provide guidance for the implementation of national defense duties. Given the developments in the national situation and in the army, the military region party organization must, in its upcoming term of office, continue to renovate its thinking and behavior and firmly grasp the situation in order to provide timely guidance and achieve outstanding results in all of its areas of activity. In particular, it must educate its troops to make them aware that the armed forces' existing tasks consist not only in defending the national sovereignty and territorial integrity but also in protecting the party, the socialist regime, Marxism-Leninism, and Ho Chi Minh Thought. This has also posed many new problems to various leadership and command echelons.

**SRV: Table of Contents for Dec 1995 Party Journal**  
**963E0012A Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN No. 17 Dec**  
**95 p 1**

[This report is a translation of the table of contents and selected articles from the monthly theoretical and political journal of the Vietnam Communist Party published in Hanoi. Notations in the table of contents indicate articles previously published or not translated.]

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## SRV: Fifth Military Region Holds Party Organization Congress

**BK0904121296 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network**  
**in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 1 Apr 96**

[FBIS Translated Text] The 5th Military Region Party Organization has held its fifth party organization congress.

The congress was attended by Lieutenant General Pham Van Tra, member of the party Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and chief of the General Staff of the Vietnamese People's Army.

The congress affirmed that in the 1994-95 term of the military region party organization, supported by the political system and the multiethnic people in



the region, troops in the military region successfully carried out their tasks of building national defense. This was participated by all people, linking the people's combat array with the people's security maintenance strategy, and strengthening the organization of defense and combat readiness on various fronts. And at the same time, it also firmly maintained the ideological combat ground, intensified party leadership over various areas of activity of the armed forces, being intent on building the contingent of party cadres and members both in quality and knowledge, ensured the unit's unity and unanimity, and renovated and intensified mass motivation work to ensure better progress.

The congress expressed its high consensus over the main targets of national defense and party building to be carried out by the military region party organization in its 1996-2000 term of office. The most important targets are the building of a national defense with the participation of all people, combining the people's combat array with the people's security maintenance strategy into a truly steadfast one, improving the integrated strength and the militancy of troops in the military region to turn it into a revolutionary, standard, crack, and gradually-modernized army.

Speaking at the congress, Major General Pham Van Tra pointed at various important issues where efforts must be focused by the military region while carrying out its national defense and party-building tasks in final years of the 20th century, along the direction of national industrialization and modernization. At the same time, troops in the military region must also closely cooperate with local security forces and must truly play a core role in joining local party organizations, the local administration, and the multiethnic people to build a national defense with the participation of all people in an in-depth and ever-steadier fashion.

#### **SRV: Seventh Military Region Holds Party Congress**

*BK0804115296 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Apr 96 pp 1, 4*

[Report by Tran The Tuyen's on the Fifth Party Congress of the Seventh Military Region Party Organization held on 28-30 March; place not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] The party organization of the Seventh Military Region held its Fifth Party Congress on 28-30 March. Senior Lieutenant General Le Kha Phieu, member of the Party Political Bureau, secretary of the Party Central Committee, and director general of the Political General Department, came and addressed the congress. Comrade Vo Tran Chi, secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee, and secretaries of

other provincial party committees in the military region also attended the congress.

The party congress of the Seventh Military Region focused on the analysis of our country's important achievements during the past 10 years of the renovation undertaking.

The congress also devoted considerable time to evaluating and analyzing the accomplishments of the party organization's leadership role during the current term of office and the success of the party organization in combining the national defense tasks, the people's war structure, and the implementation of socioeconomic targets in the region. Provincial and city defense areas have been established and actively developed, and the general strength to maintain political security in all localities has been developed. Local military tasks have been reformed, both in terms of philosophy as well as concrete actions. In addition to the enhancement of their general strength and combat competence, the region's armed forces also played an important role in the implementation of the region's socioeconomic targets and worked closely with various sectors, ministries, and localities in the region to establish the quadrangle economic strategic zone of Ho Chi Minh City-Song Be-Dong Nai-Ba Ria Vung Tau. This demonstrated well the coordination between national defense and economic activities.

The party organization's leadership, however, still demonstrates certain weaknesses. Among these are the lack of sensitivity regarding the latest situational changes, the educational task still lacks substance, and the struggle against the negative social effects and the harmful side effects of the market economy has remained inactive. The preliminary results of the organization of national defense tasks and the people's war structure are not solid enough. The organization of political tasks in grassroots units and the tasks of force building, management, and training of reserve troops are still inadequate. The general quality of the armed forces in the military region still does not meet certain requirements. The results of production activity do not correspond to the region's large potential and advantageous location. The conduct of the party renovation and rectification work in a passive way has resulted in unsatisfactory outcomes. The number of party members in party chapters at the company level remains small, while the number of nonparty member cadres remains high.

In order to fulfill all the duties of the new period, the party congress of the Seventh Military Region focused its discussions on the leadership role during the next term of office and on other core tasks, such as studying and implementing the resolutions of the National Party



Congress and the resolution of the Sixth All-Army Party Congress. These are the foundation for the building up of the local armed forces to be proficient, formal, and modern. The most urgent tasks for the time being are the renovation of military thinking and the concentration of efforts to create fundamental changes in quality, combat competence, and political strength. The party organization should be lifted up to match its new duties.

Senior Lieutenant General Le Kha Phieu addressed the congress on behalf of the Party Central Committee Military Commission. He complimented the military region's party organization for its efforts during this term of office. He also thanked the party committees, people's councils, and administrations at various levels and the mass organizations and people of all strata in the military region who have actively helped the armed forces in general, and the armed forces of the Seventh Military Region in particular, to fulfill their duties. Comrade Le Kha Phieu also pointed out that, in view of the new requirements of our country's revolution, the enhancement of political acumen and competence, as well as the combat readiness of all armed forces in the Seventh Military Region, should be considered both regular and urgent tasks. He recommended that the military region urgently work out a plan to: strengthen the task of state management in the field of national defense and the coordination of national and economic activities; increase the general strength of the armed forces through the building of strong political astuteness and alertness against the plot of peaceful evolution; consolidate the training work for the three branches of troops; and build an all-people national defense structure and people's war organization. He reminded all cadres and party members in the military region's party organization to study thoroughly the duties of industrialization and modernization in the new period and to work out effective measures to contribute to the local industrialization and modernization programs.

Also on this occasion, the congress witnessed the awarding of the "Typical Pure and Steadfast Party Organization" of 1991-95 banner by the Party Central Committee Military Commission to the party organizations of: the 23d Communications Regiment; the Counter-Intelligence Section (Seventh Military Region Staff Department); the Military Medical School; and the Z-73 Factory (Seventh Military Region Technical Department).

**SRV: CPV Urges Research, Management of Family Issues**

*BK0404153496 Hanoi VNA in English  
1519 GMT 4 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA April 4 — The Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Secretariat (CPVCCS) has issued an announcement urging relevant ministries and agencies to promote the research and management of family issues in the country.

The CPVCCS's announcement states that the family is where human beings are nurtured and where future generations are given intellectual training and lessons in good conduct, preparing each person to take a role in the community.

The family also plays an important role in education, preserving traditional culture and fighting social evils, the announcement says, adding that the family is a good factor in ensuring that the people become rich, the country remains strong, and that society is healthy and civilised.

In response to the International Year of the Family (1995), launched by the United Nations, Vietnam has implemented several concrete programmes to help ministries and social agencies to better understand family issues, and enhance social activities in family life. Although the year of the family has ended, family issues in Vietnam should continue to be researched and given comprehensive and timely attention, the announcement says.

Education and propaganda to promote the family should be expanded widely so that each family will be protected and able to strengthen itself, it adds.

The talk of building and perfecting the family should be clearly reflected in the socio-economic development plans of the government, all localities, authorities, and economic sectors, the CPVCCS says, urging all party committees at various levels and sectors to consider work on family issues an important task to be implemented.

According to the CPVCCS, the Ministry of Culture and Information should take charge of promoting the culture of the family in all localities and the National Centre for Social Science and Humanities should continue to research family issues and create a plan for present-day Vietnamese families.

The Ministry of Education and Training should manage their sector to implement family education in schools, and also create plans and measures to share educational responsibilities between schools and families.



The Ministry of Planning and Investment should also collect ideas on family issues from localities nationwide in an effort to reflect family issues in government plans, the announcement states.

The Ministry of Health should also develop a programme on family health and improve family-based medical skills.

The Fartherland Front and the women, youth and farmer associations should also increase their activities to build up the Vietnamese family, the announcement urges, ensuring that each family is happy, has adequate food and clothing, feels equal, and shares in development.

The CPVCCS's announcement also urges ministries and sectors to re-examine policies concerning the family in an effort to have suitable policies that ensure and assist a family strategy.

The announcement directs all authorities and localities and sectors to quickly implement these tasks.

**SRV: Minister Discusses Wages, Living Standards**  
*BK0904045496 Hanoi VIETNAM ECONOMIC TIMES in English Mar 96 pp 14, 15*

[Interview with Tran Dinh Hoan, SRV minister of labor, war invalids and social affairs, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [VIETNAM ECONOMIC TIMES] Vietnam is now facing high unemployment. Would you please comment on this problem?

[Tran Dinh Hoan] Thanks to joint efforts by the state and the people, the unemployment rate in urban areas was reduced from 9-10% in 1990-'91 to 6-7% in 1995. According to a survey conducted in 1994 by the Ministry of Labour, Invalids & Social Affairs (MOLISA) and the General Department of Statistics, this figure was 6.08% in urban areas and seven per cent in big cities. Although high compared to other countries in the region, it was still low compared with the former socialist countries in Eastern Europe under their transitions market economies.

The same situation can be seen in rural areas. The national agricultural conference held in Hanoi in 1993 estimated that around 30% of labour time in rural areas was not used, which equates to seven million unemployed persons. According to the Centre for Research & Development in the Mekong Delta, the need for employment in the agricultural, forest and fishing sectors in the area is 4,870,374 people in 1995 and 5,219,552 by the year 2000, whereas the people at the labour age in these same periods are 6,777,877 and 8,006,108, respectively.

On the other hand, the fast-widening gap between living standards in urban and rural areas has accelerated the rush for employment in the cities. Those coming from the rural areas and the currently jobless in urban areas have caused more than a few social problems to be solved in 1996.

[VIETNAM ECONOMIC TIMES] What is the government's plan to lower this unemployment rate?

[Tran Dinh Hoan] The government has set the objective of creating 1.3 million new jobs, of which 35,000-40,000 will be made available by state capital sources. To achieve this target, the following tasks will be done:

Each province and city will elaborate and carry out a job creation programme as prescribed in the Labour Code. In our view, the state should have some policy and mechanism of encouraging the self-employment and generating employment for others. To do that it is necessary to continue perfecting the policy and mechanism of promoting investment by Vietnamese and foreigners. At the same time, the state should provide support through the National Employment Fund, the programme set by the Decree 327/CP focusing on forestation of mountainous areas and vocational training programmes for the working people. Agriculture will be developed depending on the practical conditions and characteristics of each locality by investing in intensive cultivation, especially in winter crops. The economic structure will be shifted to boost labour-intensive small industries and services in the townships; to develop industrial crops, cottage industries, traditional village occupations, and post-harvest processing; and to expand the services for promotion of agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.

[VIETNAM ECONOMIC TIMES] The issue of labour export is of great interest to our readers. Which measures has the Ministry taken to protect labourers' interests?

[Tran Dinh Hoan] To step up the export of labour and protect the interests of the people working abroad on certain terms, MOLISA and the Ministry of Finance have supplemented a number of new policies and mechanisms in implementing Decree 07/CP regarding this issue. For instance, the Labour Management Bureau will send an expert to work with and inspect the companies which are permitted to export labour as well as assign concrete responsibilities to them in implementing the provisions of the labour export contracts. It will also work with the relevant agencies in settling disputes in civil relations. On-the-spot export of labour and overseas training of employees in joint ventures will be promoted.



[VIETNAM ECONOMIC TIMES] The new regime of wages has been applied. Could such new levels of wage, in your opinion, ensure the life of the civil servants?

[Tran Dinh Hoan] This regime, promulgated by the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, the Party Secretariat and the government, was introduced two years ago. Generally speaking, it has met the requirements: to apply the new regime of wages while ensuring the economic, political and social stability; checking prices and inflation; improving the wage earners' and subsidy beneficiaries' living standards; bringing enthusiasm to workers; and putting the payroll and wage fund under strict state management.

However, since September 1993 the prices of products and services—especially food and foodstuff items—have been rising as high as 14.48% in 1994 and 12.7% in 1995, thus reducing the actual value of wages and subsidies to only 71.7% in December 1995. That is not to mention other costs such as security, sanitation and schooling fees ... which have not been included in labour wages and thus cause further difficulties to wage earners and subsidy beneficiaries. On the contrary, it is not fair when incomes and wages in a number of industries are too high.

[VIETNAM ECONOMIC TIMES] The minimum wage applied in joint ventures and 100% foreign-invested enterprises is not attractive to local employees. Will Vietnam raise its minimum wage?

[Tran Dinh Hoan] The \$30-35 minimum monthly salary regulated in decision 242/LDTBXH-QD issued by MOLISA has been implemented for four years. Most enterprises follow the regulation; some, in auto assembly, electronics, tourism, export processing, and oil & gas, pay over \$50 per month higher than what is required. But some do not comply with Vietnam's Labour Code by paying below \$30 per month.

However, the biggest salary problem remaining in foreign-invested enterprises is that many of them violate regulations by applying the minimum wage to well-trained employees.

The price index of consume goods and services increased 42% since the regulation on the minimum wage took effect. It also has meant a 30% decrease in wage value.

Moreover, the total average income in general and income of employees of state-owned enterprises in particular have risen substantially. Many Vietnamese enterprises are making profits and their employees are paid relatively high average wages of \$80 to \$100 per month. These are often higher than the wages in foreign-invested enterprises (around \$60-80 per month) while employees in foreign enterprises have to work harder under labour requirements similar to those of enterprises abroad.

For these reasons, the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids & Social Affairs, which has been advised by concerned industries and localities, considers that Vietnam's minimum wage should be raised to ensure labour benefit as stated in Articles 56 and 132 of the Labour Code. MOLISA studied and drafted a plan to raise the minimum wage in September 1995 and sent it to relevant ministries, industries and localities for advice. The Ministry, based on the resulting contributions, proposed a letter to the Prime Minister on re-adjustment of the minimum wage for Vietnamese employees working for foreign-invested enterprises.

[VIETNAM ECONOMIC TIMES] How do you think raising minimum wages will affect foreign investment in Vietnam?

[Tran Dinh Hoan] The increase of the minimum wage will lead to extra expenditures for the cost of products and for the cost of circulation. However, it is necessary to reflect the value of the labour. On the other hand, the minimum wage would not raise much and would still be lower than other Southeast Asian countries. It therefore will not dramatically affect foreign investment in Vietnam. In fact, many foreign-invested enterprises are already paying higher-than-expected salaries. The hike will principally affect the light industries, labour-intensive enterprises, or those in areas with poor infrastructure facilities but nevertheless need to attract foreign investment.

To overcome the problem it is necessary to consider cases of some enterprises having difficulties and in need of foreign investment, and allow negotiation on a temporary minimum wage that is somewhere around the stipulated level.



**Australia****Australia: Official Denies Malaysian Ties Hurt by Hayden's Comments***BK0804041596 Melbourne Radio Australia  
in English 1100 GMT 7 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Australian Government says relations with Malaysia will not be hurt by renewed criticism of Malaysia by a former Australian Governor General and Foreign Minister Bill Hayden. Mr. Hayden today defended, as wise and overdue, his comments that Malaysia's Bumiputra system amounted to institutionalized discrimination against ethnic Chinese and Indians in Malaysia. He also blamed Malaysia's prime minister, Mahathir Mohamed, for tensions in the bilateral relationship, and said the Malaysian leader was being very rude to Australians by accusing them of being racists.

Australia's deputy prime minister, Tim Fischer, says he does not believe Mr. Hayden's comments will affect bilateral relations. He says these relations have been strengthened by the quick action of senior members of the new Australian Government.

[Begin Fischer recording] The quick footwork of [Prime Minister] John Howard and [Foreign Minister] Alexander Downer in meeting with Prime Minister Mahathir, and myself with meeting with the minister of trade, Rafidah, from Malaysia has laid a very solid basis for the bilateral relationship. There is enough strength in that to see that these comments do not derail that relationship. [end recording]

**Australia: Downer Faces Dilemma Over Funding Bridge in SRV***BK0804115096 Melbourne Radio Australia  
in English 0630 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[From the "Pacific Beat" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The largest infrastructure project yet funded by Australian aid dollars is paving a major dilemma for the new foreign minister, Alexander Downer. The \$40 million-My Thuan Bridge will, if it's built, span the Mekong River in Southern Vietnam; but it was the former Labor Party Government led by Paul Keating that agreed to fund the bridge and Mr. Downer is currently looking at options for canceling the project. While in opposition, Mr. Downer described the bridge as an inappropriate use of Australian aid money; however, as Peter Mears reports, the Vietnamese Government is not going to make it easy for Mr. Downer to switch the funds to other projects.

[Begin recording] [Mears] The symbolic value already vested in the My Thuan Bridge by Vietnam should not be underestimated. The country's new ambassador to

Australia describes it as a manifestation of the bond of friendship between the two countries. Now, one of Hanoi's top aid officials have expressed similar sentiments. Dr. Duong Duc Ung is director of foreign economic relations in Vietnam's powerful ministry of planning and investment, which makes him the man responsible for coordinating overseas development aid flowing into the country. Speaking through an interpreter he told me that the My Thuan would be the most beautiful bridge in Vietnam. A showcase of advanced technology and of the talent of Australian companies and a very prominent symbol of friendship.

[Ung] Based on all those factors you can see just how symbolic the bridge is for the relationship between Vietnam and Australia. It will be a great pity if the project can't be carried out. A bridge connects the two banks of a river, so why not build a bridge between Vietnam and Australia.

[Mears] Vietnamese officials like Dr. Ung say the My Thuan bridge will benefit 15 million people by linking the country's biggest urban center, Ho Chi Minh City, to the nation's premier rice-growing region, the Mekong Delta; but just before Easter Mr. Downer received a submission from Australia's Overseas Aid Agency, Ausaid, canvassing options for canceling the bridge. One suggestion is to hand the project over to another donor country, such as Japan or South Korea, so Australia can spend its aid dollars on more basic services such as preventative health care or clean water supplies. This would win Mr. Downer praise in many non-government aid agencies, who are among the most vocal critics for the My Thuan bridge. They say it is a kind of a large-scale project, which pleases politicians and fills the order books of Australian construction companies, but does very little to help the people of Vietnam who are most in need.

His arguments may be valid but the question is whether it is not already too late to pull out of the project. For a start, contracts have already been signed to spend \$10 million on design and planning for the bridge, and even if Mr. Downer wanted to shift the other \$45 million to small-scale projects aimed directly at helping the poor, Vietnam may not agree. As Dr. Ung from the ministry of planning and investment make it clear, the Vietnamese Government has its own procedures for allocating aid money and planning development projects, and it is not going to be happy about last minute changes by Australia.

[Ung] It would have been easier if we had talked about this two years ago, because now we've already got on the horse and started riding, and I think not only Vietnam but the whole world has already heard



about this project. The second issue is that Vietnam is not only getting aid from Australia, but also from many other countries and there are already other donors who have committed funds to small-scale projects. The problem here is that all our plans have already been set-up and the two countries, especially the Vietnamese Government, have agreed to prepare special funding for that bridge. So I think a commitment has been made at the highest-level between the two governments and announced to the world and to the whole of Vietnam, I think that commitment should be kept. [end recording]  
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**Australian Government: UK's 'Mad Cow' Disease Could Boost Exports**

BK0704161296 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN  
FINANCIAL REVIEW in English 25 Mar 96 p 3

[Report by Michael Dwyer and Fred Brenchley]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australian beef producers could see their exports rise following the outbreak of mad cow disease in Britain, according to the Federal Government.

The Trade Minister, Mr Tim Fischer, said yesterday that Australian beef producers would not be able to directly benefit — in the form of more exports to Britain — because of the outbreak.

But Mr Fischer said there could be opportunities for Australian exporters to third countries which could be affected by diversions of European supplies to Britain.

"There is no joy in the agony arising from mad cow disease, but Australian beef exporters stand ready to export where proper opportunities arise," Mr Fischer told SBS Television's Seven Days.

His comments came amidst an escalation of what is fast becoming a major public health crisis for the British Government.

With an emergency meeting of UK scientific advisers at the weekend to make a critical evaluation on whether children can safely eat meat, the Major Government said it was prepared to accept the drastic solution of slaughtering the entire 11 million British cattle herd.

The fast-food chain McDonald's also shocked the beef industry by announcing that it was withdrawing all beef hamburgers from its 660 British outlets until it could import new beef supplies from Holland.

An element of panic is setting in, summarised in the banner headline in the DAILY MIRROR which said: "Mad Cow - Total Panic."

The British beef industry now faces the prospect of a total global boycott, threatening to halt annual UK sales of about \$1 billion. Estimates on costs for a total wipe-out and replacement of the British cattle and related industries range up to \$70 billion.

Apart from the lost \$1 billion exports, slaughter and compensation to farmers could total \$28 billion. The UK domestic beef products industry is worth \$8 billion and the dairy industry \$7 billion.

London and Brussels are already pointing fingers at each other on who will pay for the inevitable farmer support in the collapsed market, as well as possible slaughter costs.

Beefgate is likely to have a huge political fallout as well. The Major Government is being asked why it did not act earlier and why it issued misleading assurances for years. The economic costs in rural areas could also cost the Tories many seats.

While Australian beef producers could benefit as European beef is diverted to Britain they have been adversely affected over the last month by a sharp surge in supplies from the U.S. hitting world markets.

The latest International Commodity Price Review (ICPR), prepared by the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) and Dresdaer Australia, shows that lower beef prices resulted in a fall of 6.8 per cent in the overall meat price index in March after a 5.2 per cent fall in February.

NFF's director of economic policy, Mr Todd Ritchie, said the recent falls in prices had resulted from a sharp rise in U.S. supplies and an early start to the autumn cattle kill in Australia.

**Papua New Guinea**

**Papua New Guinea: Bougainville Rebels Kill Papua New Guinea Soldier**

LD1004085396 Melbourne Radio Australia  
in English 0800 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Rebels on the secessionist island of Bougainville have killed another Papua New Guinea (PNG) soldier. Sean Dorney reports that it is the first fatality on the PNG government side since Sir Julius Chan lifted the ceasefire two weeks' ago.

[Dorney] The soldier was killed by rebel sniper fire at Kangu Beach near Buin on the south coast of Bougainville early yesterday morning. He was one of a small contingent of soldiers based at Kangu Beach where about 300 Bougainvillians who fled from their villages to escape harassment had taken refuge in a (?camp). It is the first confirmed death on either side since Sir Julius Chan cancelled the ceasefire on 21 March.



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